

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLOTTE BOBICKI

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Charlotte Bobicki and thank her for her dedication to Colorado as an Alamosa County Commissioner. Her dedication and tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for her constituents. As Charlotte moves on in her career, let it be known that she leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Alamosa County and the State of Colorado.

An Alamosa native, Charlotte worked for thirty-six years in the Alamosa Public School System as both a teacher and an administrator before being elected a county commissioner in 1996. During her tenure as a commissioner, Charlotte has been very active in health and human welfare issues. She serves on the Colorado State Board of Health, regional Workforce Committee, and Colorado Counties Incorporated. She also is a founding member of Action 22 in southern Colorado and serves as the San Luis Valley representative to the executive board of Action 22. Last year, Charlotte served as Chairman of the Board of Alamosa County Commissioners, working to enhance relations between the county and other local and state agencies.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Charlotte Bobicki before this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate her on an outstanding career of public service. Her selfless dedication to her community and the people of Colorado as an Alamosa County Commissioner is truly remarkable. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

WHIRLIE SOCCER DYNASTY CONTINUES

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as the 2003–2004 academic school year comes to an end, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a high school in the Sixth District of North Carolina that won a state girls' soccer championship. The Whirlies had extra incentive in the final game as they faced a Raleigh Broughton team that had defeated the Grimsley girls (by a score of 2–0) in the finals just 1 year ago. This time around the score was again 2–0, but it would be the Whirlies who walked away with the state title. This game capped off a perfect post-season run in which Grimsley held all playoff opponents scoreless; a remarkable feat that was last accomplished by the Whirlies in 2002. Indeed, the Grimsley girls' soccer pro-

gram is no stranger to championships as this became their sixth title since 1990.

Despite a convincing playoff performance going into the final game, Grimsley Head Coach Herk DeGraw was weary of the Whirlies' sluggish first few minutes against a formidable Broughton adversary. "The slow start scared me because I thought if they sneak one in and we don't get going we're going to have a problem," DeGraw told the Greensboro News & Record. But with 19:53 remaining in the first half, freshman Holly Cresson's goal began to assuage DeGraw's concerns. A left-footed player, Presson used her right foot to shoot the ball past the Broughton goalkeeper putting the Whirlies on top 1–0. "The look on her face was the funniest thing I've ever seen . . . It was total disbelief," DeGraw told a local reporter about Presson's post-goal expressions. After the Whirlies secured the lead there was no looking back as they powered their way to a 2–0 victory.

This was a memorable win for the Whirlies who were led by a number of senior players. Laura Hanson, Erin Graham, Whitney Andringa, Marie Bobalik, Jenny Cauble, Arden Dwyer, Melissa Ellisen, Anna Betton, and Ashley Newsome all finished their careers with a state championship. These girls had a strong supporting cast comprised of Anna Rodenbough, Michele Driver, Carey Goodman, Alex Leeder, Heidi Andringa, Carra Sykes, Lauren Atkinson, Casey Warmath, Holly Presson, Catherine Rierison, Lucy FanCourt, and Camelyn Dillon.

After such a strong season congratulations are in order for the Grimsley coaching staff. Head Coach Herk DeGraw and Assistant Coach Kevin Conaway deserve much credit for leading the Whirlies on their title run. Recognition should also be given to Athletic Director Neal Hatcher, Principal Rob Gasparello, Athletic Trainer Kris Dickens, and team managers Lauren Chambers and Rachel Goans. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Grimsley Whirlies for winning the 4–A girls' soccer championship.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RAMÓN VÉLEZ JR.

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Ramón Vélez, an extraordinary community leader who has played an important role in improving housing opportunities for the people of the Bronx.

Ramón was born in Colon, Panama but raised in Puerto Rico and the Bronx, NY. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration from InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico in 1978, a Masters in Public Administration from John Jay College

of Criminal Justice in 1985 and a Master of Science in Real Estate Development and Finance from New York University in 1992. He is also a graduate of the Minorities Developers Program at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Today, Ramón serves as the President of the South Bronx Community Management Company, Inc., a property management company responsible for the management and operations of approximately 2,200 units of housing. Under his leadership, the company has been able to develop over 1,300 units in the South Bronx. Recently, they successfully completed a scattered site project consisting of 18 two and three family homes in the South Bronx for first time home buyers.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly appreciative of the work Ramón Vélez has done for the people of my district. As a result of his strong leadership and vision many people have been able to achieve a higher standard of living in the Bronx. For his outstanding service to the people of my community, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable man.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY JESSIE GONZALEZ ROQUE

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a very special woman, Mary Jessie Gonzalez Roque, known by her friends as "Susie." Susie is a valued employee of mine who is retiring after thirty-three years of dedicated service to the federal government. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge this important milestone in her life, and to also express my appreciation for the impact she has made on the lives of the constituents of the 20th District of Texas.

Susie's parents immigrated to the United States from Mexico before she was born so that they might have a piece of the American dream. They raised Susie, their first born, and her four siblings in San Antonio. Susie exhibited her value of education throughout her elementary, high school, and college careers. She parlayed this love of education and her skill of helping others into a job as a teacher at Burbank High School in San Antonio during the 1970–1971 academic year.

In 1971, Susie obtained a summer job in the District Office of my father, former U.S. Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez. She was hired full-time to handle casework for the 20th District of Texas and her summer job turned into a thirty-three year career.

Susie has expressed pride in working for my father, a notable figure in Texas and U.S. politics. He was celebrated in San Antonio as being a man who gave a voice to those who could not speak for themselves. Susie was vital to my father's efforts in this endeavor because she worked in close contact with people

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

who could not navigate through the often convoluted systems of federal bureaucracies by themselves.

I was blessed to be elected to represent the 20th District of Texas in 1998. Like my father before me, I recognize the value of providing good constituent services to those whom I represent. Therefore, I hired Susie to continue in her casework position so that she could continue to provide important services for constituents. Her many accomplishments led me to promote her to be my District Office Director.

In the five and one-half years that Susie has worked for me, she has proven herself invaluable to me, my staff, and the constituents of the 20th District of Texas. She assists people with a wide variety of problems that they experience with federal government agencies, and sometime state and local agencies. These problems include, but are certainly not limited to, immigration cases, military matters, housing problems, health and social services inquiries, and federal workers compensation claims.

I am sincerely proud to count myself among those who have had the opportunity to know and work with Susie. Her steadfast dedication to her job has had an impact on many individuals' lives. Also, her knowledge and skills have enabled those of us who have worked with her to do our jobs better. I wish her many blessings and the very best for her retirement. She will be greatly missed.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan was a warm thoughtful leader who governed by the Golden Rule of caring for others. Many speakers have paid eloquent tribute to his role as both a world leader and a best friend of the American people. Because of our shared love of land I developed a personal relationship with President Reagan that I will always cherish.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KELLY WILSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Kelly Wilson and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Montezuma County Commissioner. A two-term commissioner, he will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of his community. As Kelly celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment and service to the people of Montezuma County and the State of Colorado.

Kelly comes from a family with a rich history of political activism. His grandfather served as

a county treasurer for fourteen years, his uncle as a county assessor, his father as a party chairman, and his sister was State Senator Jim Isgar's campaign manager and a former employee of Senator BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL. During his time as a commissioner Kelly has been very involved with the Canyon of the Ancients National Monument and helped to develop the comprehensive land code for the county. He also helped make the unpopular yet important decision to move the county fair in order to fight the Mesa Verde fire of 2000. Kelly plans to stay active in his community after his term, as well as working on the sixty-five acre farm he shares with his sister.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Kelly Wilson before this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate him on an outstanding career of public service. His selfless dedication to his community and the people of Colorado as a Montezuma County Commissioner is truly remarkable. I wish him and his wife Diane all the best in their future endeavors. Thanks for your service.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RONKONKOMA FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my sincere congratulations to the Ronkonkoma Fire Department in celebration of their 100th Anniversary.

In September of 1903, after a tragic fire at a resort complex took the life of one individual and injured fourteen others, twenty-four men from the Ronkonkoma area volunteered to join a fire-fighting group to replace the existing neighbor bucket brigade system. This group quickly developed, and on June 15, 1904, Ronkonkoma Hook and Ladder Company #1 was officially born.

Ronkonkoma Hook and Ladder Company #1's first truck was a horse-drawn vehicle carrying one hundred feet of hose. The alarm system consisted of a locomotive tire, which resembled a huge iron ring, and a hammer, which was chained to the tire so that it could not be carried away. There were no fire wells or hydrants.

While there have been many developments since 1904, including a name change in 1933 to the Ronkonkoma Fire Department, the mission still remains the same. The men and women of the Ronkonkoma Fire Department are proudly serving their community by saving lives and protecting property.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE HON. WILLIAM HENRY MCDERMOTT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Mobile County, AL, and indeed the entire First Congressional

District, recently lost a dear friend and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Judge William Henry McDermott was a devoted family man and dedicated public servant throughout his 50-year career in public service.

A former member of both the Alabama State House and Senate, Judge McDermott turned down an appointment to the bench in Mobile County in 1970, feeling called instead to devote his time to a law practice that would enable him to support his large family. Thirty years later, he ran for—and won—election to a six-year term on the circuit court and until his untimely death, served with distinction in this position.

Unfortunately, Judge McDermott was only recently diagnosed with cancer. However, even in the face of such difficult news, his first thoughts were of selecting the best possible replacement to ensure that the judicial system would not be adversely affected and that the wheels of justice would continue to turn.

In addition to his distinguished career in the state legislature and on the circuit court, Judge McDermott also served with pride in the United States military and was, for a time, the city attorney for Chickasaw, AL.

At the time of his passing, I remarked that Judge McDermott had a heart as big as the state of Texas and that his death would create a large void in the fabric of the Mobile community. In the days since his death, those sentiments have in no way lessened.

The Judge and his lovely wife, Katie, were fixtures in the life of our community for many years and together, they worked in numerous ways, both publicly and behind the scenes, to make life much better for the people of south Alabama.

Not surprisingly, the dedication and care Judge McDermott devoted to community service was constantly on display in his service on the bench. In fact, his attention to even the smallest detail in the cases he heard became legendary around the courthouse, and he was always striving to render a fair decision to all concerned.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated public servant and long-time advocate for all of south Alabama. Judge McDermott will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Catherine O'Brien McDermott; his daughters, Elizabeth O'Neill, Annette Carwie, Jeanne Marie Cruthirds, Michelle Mayberry, Mary Claire Wacker, Catherine Williamson, and Maureen McDermott; his son, William Joseph McDermott; and his two brothers, Charles L. McDermott and Edward B. McDermott—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

STROKE TREATMENT AND ONGOING PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3658 Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act. I urge the Secretary

to also consider that atrial fibrillation is the leading cause of severe stroke, but if properly treated, the risk of stroke can be dramatically reduced. Atrial fibrillation causes only 15 percent of all stroke, however it leads to a much higher rate of debilitating outcomes for patients resulting in their need for long-term care and increasing the burden on our health care system.

Atrial fibrillation is a condition where the atrium of the heart does not pump blood out properly into the ventricle causing the blood to pool in the atrial chamber. The pooling leads to the formation of clots, which can break off and travel into the arteries and to the brain where it may lodge causing a severe stroke.

Atrial fibrillation currently affects over 2.3 million people in the United States. However, the number of those effected will increase significantly as the population ages and improvements in the treatment of other forms of heart disease are made, extending their life expectancy but increasing their chances of developing atrial fibrillation.

The Committee urges the Secretary to recognize that strokes caused by atrial fibrillation are preventable through the use of anticoagulation medications. The use of anticoagulation medications have been shown to reduce the risk of stroke caused by atrial fibrillation by over 68 percent. The American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, American College of Chest Physicians, American College of Physicians and American Academy of Family Practitioners have all issued guidelines stressing the importance of stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation by the proper use of anticoagulation therapy.

However, a significant number of patients who should be on anticoagulation therapy do not receive the proper medication. Given the severity of stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation and the ability of the proper care to prevent strokes it is important that health care professionals are educated about the current guidelines for treatment and there is an increased public awareness of atrial fibrillation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BRINKER

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Dennis Brinker and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Jackson County Commissioner. A four-term commissioner, Dennis will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of his community. As Dennis celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Jackson County and the State of Colorado.

A lifelong resident of North Park, Dennis has lived and worked on a ranch near Coalmont that was homesteaded by his father in 1914. Graduating from Jackson County High School in 1961, he answered his country's call to duty, serving in the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1965. In 1988, he was elected to the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County where he has dedicated his efforts to serving

the people of Jackson County. Some of the committees and boards Dennis serves on include the Western Interstate Region Board of Directors, National Association of County Officials Public Lands Committee. He was chairman of the Colorado Counties Incorporated Public Lands Committee, and is a member of the Western Interstate Region Strategic Plan for National Association of County Officials Steering Committee. He is also a member of the North Park Stockgrowers Association, Colorado Cattlemen Association, and Jackson County Lions Club.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that County Commissioner Dennis Brinker has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his county and the people of Colorado as a County Commissioner for Jackson County. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Dennis and I wish you and your wife Mary Lea all the best in your future endeavors.

PATRIOTS' RESILIENCE LEADS TO TITLE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as major league baseball is in full swing, I would like to take a moment to congratulate a high school in the Sixth District of North Carolina that won a state girls' softball championship. It was not an easy road for the Southern Alamance girls' softball team, but in the end, it was certainly a rewarding one. After losing the first game of the championship round in 10 innings, the Patriots found themselves facing a winner take all game at the Walnut Creek Softball Complex. "I don't expect anything easy with them (his team)," Head Coach Mike Johnson told the Burlington Times-News. In continuing this trend of close games and tension filled finishes, Southern Alamance defeated Enka High School 8-6 in yet another 10 inning battle. Despite the Patriots' history of drama, this title should come as no surprise after a combined record of 30-2 for the year.

One of the key performers during the two day tournament run was senior pitcher Brooke Isley who handled 39 innings and struck out 59 batters. It was Isley who closed out the final game by retiring three straight hitters. This capped off a come from behind victory that was initially sparked by Amanda Johnson's base hit and ensuing RBI from Marybeth Ingle. "We couldn't make anything easy," Isley explained to a local reporter. Perhaps the biggest scare for the Patriots came in the 9th inning when an Enka base runner was thrown out at the plate keeping Southern Alamance's hopes alive. Finally in the 10th inning, with runners in scoring position, Marybeth Ingle came up with, what would be, the deciding hit to secure the title.

This was a special win for the Patriots who were led by a number of senior players. Carla Roger, Whitney Lambe, Amanda Hodge, Brooke Isley, Marybeth Ingle, Maegan Evans, and Stacey Vaughn all finished there high school careers on top. These girls had the help of a strong supporting cast comprised of Tori Thompson, Kim Pardue, Brittany McPher-

son, Brittany Thompson, Magan Campbell, Amanda Johnston, Bethany Hawks, Brandi Haithcock, Ariel Bullock, Amanda Cline, Leslie Scott, Daveda Fox, Tiffany Helton, Erika Winebarger, Kristen Burgess, Olivia McPher-son, Kristen Roach, April Carver, and Janna Holt.

After such a remarkable season much credit goes to the Southern Alamance coaching staff who guided the Patriots to the championship. Congratulations to Head Coach Mike Johnson and assistant coaches Chris Miller, Cully Lambeth, Mike Thompson and John Miller. Further recognition should be awarded to Principal Kent Byrd and Athletic Director David Vaughn after this memorable season. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Patriots of Southern Alamance for winning the state 3-A girls' softball championship.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD CARRIÓN

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Richard Carrión, who served as a National Grand Marshall for the Puerto Rican Day Parade in New York City on June 13, 2004 and has promoted the Puerto Rican Community in all of his life's work.

Richard was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico in November of 1952. He received a Bachelor's degree from the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce at the University of Pennsylvania and a Masters degree in Management Information Systems from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1976 he began working for Banco Popular, the leading banking institution in Puerto Rico. In his early years, he oversaw the installation of the ATM system throughout the extensive branch network in Puerto Rico and the United States. Today, I am proud to say that Richard serves as president and CEO of the company.

Mr. Speaker, empowerment of the Puerto Rican people remains one of Richard's top priorities. He serves as president of the Committee for the Economic Development of Puerto Rico and actively participates on the boards of several other civic organizations committed to solving problems on the island.

In 1990 Richard was named a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and has been named to several of its commissions including chairman of the Finance Commission and member of the TV and Internet Rights and Marketing Commissions. In addition, he has served as a member of the Puerto Rico Olympic Committee, president of the Puerto Rico Olympic Trust and as a member of the 2004 Olympiad, a non-profit organization that sought to garner international support for Puerto Rico's efforts to stage the 2004 Olympic Games.

Mr. Speaker, what impresses me the most about this remarkable man is his willingness to put his knowledge to work for the benefit of Puerto Ricans. For his extraordinary achievements and his outstanding service to the people of Puerto Rico, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding man.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUBY
LEHRMANN

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Ruby Lehrmann, Chief United States Probation Officer for the Western District of Texas. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Ruby's long and prestigious career, as well as the countless contributions she has made to her community.

Ruby's professional life reflects hard work, determination, and commitment that began during her college years at Sam Houston State University, where she earned both her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in the field of Health Education. During her undergraduate studies, Ruby was a summer intern with the Goree Unit of the Texas Department of Corrections. Through this internship experience, Ruby began to lay the foundation for her impressive career.

After obtaining her Master's degree, Ruby continued a steady climb up the ranks in the Texas Department of Corrections until she became Assistant Warden for the Goree Unit. In September of 1975, this remarkable woman became the first female U.S. Probation Officer for the Western District of Texas. She was then promoted to Deputy Chief United States Probation Officer in 1983 and was named Chief United States Probation Officer for the Western District of Texas in January of 1995.

Throughout her admirable career, Ruby has always maintained her commitment to education. She has served as an adjunct professor for St. Mary's University and Our Lady of the Lake University. In this capacity, Ruby has shared her knowledge and experiences with others in order to help them achieve success as she has. She has also served as a co-chairman and mentor for Burnet Elementary school in the San Antonio Independent School District.

Ruby's dauntless commitment to her community has been very impressive. She has contributed to San Antonio through volunteer service for many organizations, including the San Antonio Conservation Society and the United Way. In addition to these activities, Ruby is also deeply involved in her church, Concordia Lutheran. There, she has served on a number of committees and has been a coach and a Sunday School teacher.

I deeply appreciate Ruby's many contributions to the Texas Department of Corrections, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, and the city of San Antonio. Her dedication to her career and the humanitarianism she consistently exhibits in her community have made Ruby a role model for all of us. I am proud of Ruby's accomplishments and I wish her continued happiness and success upon her retirement.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY
SPEECH BY SPEAKER HASTERT

SPEECH OF

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, at the ceremony recognizing the 60th Anniversary of D-Day held at the United States Memorial Cemetery at Omaha Beach, you, Speaker DENNIS HASTERT, delivered a moving tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who fought and died for freedom. The text of these thoughtful remarks follows:

D-DAY MINUS 1

REMARKS BY SPEAKER J. DENNIS HASTERT FOLLOWING A MASS BY HIS EMINENCE FRANCIS CARDINAL GEORGE OF CHICAGO
[From the Omaha Beach Cemetery, France, June 5, 2004]

Thank you Cardinal George for your inspirational words.

Today we stand in this now peaceful cemetery, on the cliffs overlooking the sea, in this field of white crosses and Stars of David—straight and tall—as if they were young men standing at attention.

Together we have made a pilgrimage to this “hallowed ground”—as Abraham Lincoln would have phrased it—to bear witness to what took place here and to spend, at least a fleeting moment, with our brothers that lie beneath this ground—men who sacrificed on this foreign shore so that we might live as free men and women.

It is our privilege, and our duty, to reflect upon the courage and the heroism of those who were called upon to defend our freedom. We honor those who lie here, but we also embrace those who survived, and returned home to raise their families and to build our nation as a beacon to freedom loving people around the world.

Not far from here, at Pointe du Hoc, are the cliffs they said no man could scale. But they were scaled by determined men with ladders and ropes and grappling hooks in the midst of a merciless hail of bullets and shrapnel.

Twenty years ago, on the 40th Anniversary of D-Day, President Reagan looked out at those cliffs and asked, “who were these men?”

They were ordinary men doing extraordinary things. Men who sought no territory—who sought no plunder—and who sought no glory. They simply came, and many died, so we could live in freedom.

“Where do we find such men?” asked President Reagan. He knew the answer. Over there—across the sea—in America.

Sixty years ago today, D-Day minus One, what were those young men thinking as they waited to embark on one of the great crusades of the millennium?

In those tension filled hours some found comfort in quiet prayer. Others may have wondered why they were here.

What threat forced these farmers, accountants, factory workers, college students, athletes and assorted other laborers and professionals, to leave their families, their careers and their American way of life?

They knew the answer. Hitler's Germany was that threat. Hitler's hatred of freedom, his assault on common decency, his brutal murder of millions of his own citizens, and his determination to impose his sick vision of the future on the free world.

To end Hitler's regime and restore common decency in the world: that is why they were there.

Operation Overlord, as with the entire war effort, caused great hardship. But out of such hardship was drawn great courage, and from great courage were forged great leaders. Some of that “greatest generation” returned home and entered politics and went on to serve our Nation in the Congress of the United States.

Sam Gibbons parachuted behind the lines here in Normandy, preparing the way for the invasion that would follow. He would later become a leader on the Ways and Means Committee.

Bob Michel, our beloved leader from Illinois, went ashore here in Normandy and fought the Nazis all the way to Bastogne, where he was wounded at the Battle of the Bulge.

The list of members who served our nation in the Second World War, and still serve in the House of Representatives, is growing ever shorter with the passage of time.

But those proud members—Henry Hyde of Illinois, Cass Ballenger of North Carolina, John Dingell of Michigan, Amo Houghton of New York, Ralph Hall of Texas, and Ralph Regula of Ohio, still bring great honor to the United States House of Representatives.

These Members of Congress and the men of the 1st Division, some of whom are here today, and their millions of comrades-in-arms, understood that the world-wide threat of fascism, if left unchecked, would destroy the free world. They faced that threat and they beat it.

I want to tell you that the “Greatest Generation” still lives today and like the boys of the 1940s, it has a very young face. They are the grandsons and the granddaughters of those who hit this beach in France or raised that flag on Iwo Jimi or pushed the communists back in Korea or in Vietnam.

How do I know that these young warriors of the 21st century are also part of “The Greatest Generation?” Because I have met some of them. I have visited them in hospital wards at Walter Reed and in Landstuhl in Germany.

When you visit these young men and women—some of whom have been severely wounded, and you ask them what they want, you always get the same answer, “I just want to go back and join my unit, sir, to be with my comrades and do my job.”

It happens over and over again, the same response given with pride and determination. I ask myself, often with tears in my eyes as I walk away, “Where do we find such men and women?” And I know the answer. All around me. Everywhere I look. In America.

Today we face the threat of world-wide terrorism. Like the Nazis of the 1930's, the terrorists of the 1990's were a threat too often ignored.

But like Pearl Harbor, September 11th, 2001, shocked us out of our complacency. As Americans, we love peace, but we love freedom more. So we are facing the threat. And we will beat it.

In war, we often sacrifice some of the best and the brightest to further the cause of freedom. But we also forge the leaders for the next generation.

We cannot know who will be the Bob Michel, or Bob Dole, or Sam Gibbons of this new generation. But they are out there. Perhaps serving today in a remote mountain camp in Afghanistan, or in a village in Iraq, or on a ship at sea.

Their mission is not very different from that of 1944—to preserve the freedoms that we cherish and to restore freedom to oppressed people. They are fighting to make our homeland safe. They are sacrificing for others.

Who are these ordinary men and women doing extraordinary things you ask? I cannot tell you their names. But this I know: They are Americans.

May God continue to Bless the United States of America.

FREEDOM IS NOT FOR FREE

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues the following prayer written by Rabbi Reuven Mann from Congregation Rinat Yisrael in Plainview, New York.

Almighty G-d, we have gathered here today at a crucial moment in our history to honor the memory of all those who fought and made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Nation and its ideals of freedom, compassion and the highest cultivation of the human spirit. We came not only to honor but also to affirm the lesson of their sacrifice: Freedom is not an entitlement; it does not come for free, it is something which has to be fought for. With humbleness and gratitude let us acknowledge a simple truth: We owe these heroes everything. Without them, we would have lost our freedom long ago.

Yet, many people do not feel this way and take what we have here for granted believing that the American way of life is somehow "coming" to them. 9/11 was a wake up call—which happened, to a large extent because nobody believed it could happen. Let us admit it: We were afflicted with the cancer of complacency and blinded by the illusion of invincibility. Suddenly our country was under attack by a merciless, barbaric enemy who wanted us destroyed. 9/11 was a wake up call, but all too many decided to push the snooze button and go back to sleep.

The enemy does not sleep. He continues to remind us of his barbarism and cruelty by beheading innocent Americans and proudly recording his sadism on camera. 9/11 was a wake up call and the message is: If we do not appreciate our freedom and are not willing to fight for it, there is no guarantee that we will always have it. Therefore, I call on all of you to renew your appreciation for our country and its values for we are at war and every war requires the full support of the home front.

We have gathered here today to honor the heroes past and present whose valiant dedication makes our freedom possible. I would be remiss if I did not include among them the civilian heroes of 9/11, the firefighters, police and first responders, who charged into the line of fire to save thousands on that dark day. They wrote a new chapter in the history of bravery and self-sacrifice, and they will never be forgotten.

Almighty G-d, Creator of the Universe, may their selfless service inspire us to appreciate all the blessings that You have bestowed on this Nation. Let their memory be for a blessing—motivating us to become better people: more productive, compassionate, and respectful of the dignity of all men and women who were created in Your Image. And may Your Guidance and Protection be with our men and women who are right now in harms way, to give them the strength, courage and dedication to complete the mission in which they have performed so magnificently. May they speedily return in good health to their country, their homes and loved ones. And let us say: Amen.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great leader, a great man, and a great American. When President Ronald Wilson Reagan passed away on June 5, 2004, his death brought more than an end to his valiant ten-year struggle against Alzheimer's disease. It brought an end to one of the brightest and most optimistic periods in American history.

While President Reagan had been out of the public eye and under the loving care of his beloved wife, Nancy, for over a decade, he was never far from our minds or our hearts. During these past ten years, while he was traveling down the road into the sunset of his life, we have all had the opportunity to consider his true greatness and his many achievements. We have all come to understand that he was more than just our president and the most powerful man in the world; he was, instead, the personification of—and the symbol for—the boundless potential possible in this country.

From Dixon, Illinois, to Detroit, Michigan, from Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles, California, and at all points in between, men and women everywhere recognize President Reagan for what he truly was: a gifted leader and a compassionate American with a vision for our future and an unwavering belief in the spirit and goodness of mankind.

To say that Ronald Reagan was an example of the American dream would be an understatement. Ronald Reagan was the American dream, the product of a poor middle class family who, as the result of his own intelligence, determination and strong personality, was able to attend college, enjoy a successful career in broadcasting and motion pictures, and eventually rise to the position of governor of California.

For most, that in and of itself would be a remarkable career. But President Reagan did not stop there. Rather, he continued to focus on what he saw as a need for a strong leader in the White House, someone who could work with a divided Congress and an American public still reeling from the political and economic crises of the 1970s to restore this Nation to its position as the "shining city on the hill."

During his eight years in office, he did just that. The "Reagan Revolution," as it came to be known, provided the impetus for significant changes here at home and around the world. The economy in this country which had been in steep decline for a number of years righted itself and enjoyed a strong period of growth for the next nine years. The Cold War was brought to an end, communism in many countries ultimately collapsed, and a whole new generation of men, women, and children around the world were able to enjoy a new, life free from the fear of oppression.

Perhaps his greatest accomplishment, however, was in giving Americans a new sense of hope and pride. President Reagan restored a strong sense of optimism and hopefulness to this country, and made everyone feel proud

that they could once again say with assurance and determination, "I am an American."

Mr. Speaker, just as our nation paused last week to remember and reflect on this good man and great leader, let us, as a nation, remember President Ronald Reagan in the same way that he is remembered by his family: a man full of love, laughter, and life, someone full of boundless optimism and faith, and someone who always believed that America's best days are indeed ahead.

Our country—indeed, our world—has been blessed that we were able to share in a small way in the tremendous life he led. May we never forget the lessons he taught us or the leadership he displayed, and may we continue to keep Mrs. Reagan and the entire Reagan family foremost in our thoughts and prayers.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to President Ronald Reagan. We all join together this week to mourn his passage, but more importantly to celebrate his life. President Reagan meant many things to many people in the United States and throughout the world. Put simply, the world is a better place because Ronald Reagan lived. From his days as an actor and motivational speaker to his time as Governor and President to his final days on his California ranch, Ronald Reagan was a true gentleman who impacted the lives of those around him.

Ronald Reagan was sworn in as the 40th President of the United States the day American hostages were released from Iran—a poignant beginning to the challenges, which would lie ahead. As President, he survived an attack on his life and a battle with colon cancer; he fought communism; he guided the American people through rough economic times and uncertain international struggles; he made history in nominating the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court; and lead Americans through the tragedy of the Space Shuttle Challenger.

But to limit our descriptions of President Reagan to the milestones in his Presidency would be incomplete. His most impressive qualities are the intangibles that are felt but hard to describe.

So many Americans connected with President Reagan on a personal level. His ability to communicate with was unparalleled. "Larger than life" was never a phrase used to describe Ronald Reagan—not because he couldn't have been, but because he didn't want to be. He truly operated as a man of the people.

My first term as Governor of Delaware overlapped with his second term as President of the United States. I had the honor and privilege of working with President Reagan on what I see as one of his greatest landmark accomplishments—welfare reform. The empathy he felt for the American people and the challenges they faced in trying to make ends meet were represented in this landmark legislation. He epitomized a leader who didn't give hand-outs—but a hand up.

The optimism he felt for every American, our nation and the world was evident to all. His "glass half full" mentality guided us through times of peace and times of uncertainty; through the end of the Cold War and rough economic times. No matter what our nation faced, President Reagan's sense of patriotism, togetherness and hope for the future—was infectious.

His love of country made us believe that America was blessed to do great things for so many people. Sadly, this was probably best communicated in what has come to be known as his Letter to the American people when he told the world he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, when he wrote:

"I now begin the journey that will lead me into the sunset of my life. I will know that for America there will always be a bright dawn ahead."

Everything he did, he did with grace. He will be remembered—even by those who may have disagreed with him—with respect for his willingness to work together and negotiate, with humor. He and Democratic Speaker Tip O'Neill used to joke that we are "all friends after 6:00 p.m." meaning that at the end of the day, politics was put aside and friendships could grow.

I like to think of President Reagan as a flexible conservative, one who was willing to listen to all sides of an argument, even if he didn't agree, for the chance that he might learn something new or understand a different angle. He didn't pretend to be an expert on all issues, and that is why so many politicians and the American people respected him. He wanted to turn the issue on all sides to see if there were any new approaches that could be taken. Yet at the same time, he was deeply rooted in his beliefs of smaller government, lower taxes and personal responsibility—which continue to guide the Republican Party today.

President Reagan is considered the modern day father of the Republican Party and his long legacy and sunny optimistic spirit will live on in all Americans. And as we all gather today to celebrate the man who meant so much to our country, I would like to invoke the words he used in bidding good-bye to the passengers on the Space Shuttle *Challenger*—"We will never forget them, not the last time we saw them—this morning, as they prepared for their journey, and waved goodbye, and 'slipped the surly bonds of earth' to 'touch the face of God'."

The Gipper, the Great Communicator, the Flexible Conservative and the Great Conciliator has gone home. But his legacy will never be forgotten.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRED A.
LUNDIN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with a heavy heart to pay tribute to the life and memory of Fred "Fritz" Lundin of Glenwood Springs, Colorado. I personally knew Fritz well, and he was a man of the highest integrity

and ethics and a natural leader in the community. As his family mourns his passing, I believe it appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man.

Born and raised in Brady, Nebraska, Fritz first moved to Colorado when he attended the University of Denver to study accounting on an ROTC scholarship. As a fighter pilot, Fritz honorably served our country in both Korea and Vietnam. For his service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Following his military service he received his MBA from the University of Colorado.

In 1950, Fritz married Bette Coad with whom he had four children. Fritz retired from the Air Force in 1973 and moved to Glenwood Springs. During the years Fritz spent in Glenwood Springs, he became active in the community as a supporter of high school athletics. An avid sports enthusiast, he enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren participate in athletics, and he enjoyed outdoor activities with his family. In 1980, Fritz remarried Cindy Dollins with whom he shared a successful accounting practice and with whom he had a son.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Fred "Fritz" Lundin and pay tribute to his life as a valuable citizen of Glenwood Springs. Fritz held both himself and others to the highest standards. His competitiveness was contagious, making people around him better. I wish to express my deepest sympathies to his family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD AND ENCOURAGING GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF FATHERS IN THE LIVES OF THEIR CHILDREN

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, we often hear negative comments about fathers and fatherhood, about "deadbeat dads" and absent fathers.

It's easy to forget that there are millions of American fathers who love their wives and their children.

They get up every morning and go to work to support their families.

They go to baseball games and ballet performances and school plays.

They help their kids with their homework, chaperone proms and mow the lawn.

They treat their wives with respect and model healthy relationships.

They make sacrifices and invest in the next generation.

Current research shows that these daily acts of responsibility and faithfulness have a major impact on child well-being.

Statistics show us that marriage is the foundation of responsible fatherhood, and that fathers who are married to the mothers of their children are more likely to be involved in their children's lives.

But, we don't need statistics to tell us that committed, involved fathers are essential to the preservation of the family.

On Sunday, thousands of families in my district will celebrate Father's Day.

Amid all the distractions of our society, many will stop, for just a minute, to honor "Dad."

It seems that politics and social change and the faddish nature of our culture have not been able to erase the enduring value of fatherhood and the imprint that fathers have in my district and across this great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present yesterday during rollcall No. 232, I would have voted "aye." During rollcall No. 233, I would have voted "aye." During rollcall No. 234, I would have voted "no." And, on rollcall No. 235, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING CAROLYN
RUBENSTEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary individual who has made a difference in the lives of so many young children. Carolyn Rubenstein, herself just a teenager, started Carolyn's Compassionate Children (CCC), a non-profit organization that links critically ill children with their healthy peers through a pen pal program. Started 5 years ago when Carolyn was 14 years old, the program has connected over 500 children with pen pals in almost every U.S. state and countries around the world, including Canada and England. This excellent program helps children suffering from life-threatening or chronic illnesses connect with their healthy peers. Most of these children are shut in and do not have the ability to interact with others their age or live normal lives. CCC gives them the opportunity to develop friendships and connect with children or teens their age.

In addition to the pen pal program, CCC has awarded 21 college scholarships to cancer survivors. Because of their illness, many of these children who do not have as impressive a resume as their healthy peers and would, otherwise, not qualify for a scholarship. More recently, CCC has set up a scholarship program in the arts for cancer survivors.

I cannot say enough about Carolyn. At a time when our country is asking our young men and women to make sacrifices, Carolyn is a shining example for others to follow. Her compassion, drive and desire to help others has made this world a better place. I commend Carolyn and CCC for making a difference in the lives of so many young people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this chamber on June 14, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 234 and "yea" on rollcall votes 232, 233 and 235.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KENT LINDSAY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Kent Lindsay and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a two-term Montezuma County Commissioner. His dedication and tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for his constituents. As Kent celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Montezuma County and the State of Colorado.

A lifelong resident of Montezuma County, Kent is the third generation owner of El Grande Cafe in Cortez. He is very active in the community, serving for fifteen years on the local fire department and is currently the Fire Chief. As a county commissioner, Kent was instrumental in rewriting the Land Use Plan and in creating the Stewardship Committee involving rangeland and grazing. He also worked closely in the development of the Dolores River Valley Plan, and plans to stay involved in the issues affecting Montezuma County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Kent Lindsay before this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate him on an outstanding career of public service. His selfless dedication to his community and the people of Colorado as a Montezuma County Commissioner is truly remarkable. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Thanks for your service.

HONORING JUDY BENTLEY

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judy Bentley, the President and CEO of Community Health-in Partnership Services (CHIPS) in St. Louis. Ms. Bentley was recently selected as a 2004 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader. She was one of just ten people nationally to be selected for this prestigious award, which includes a grant of over \$105,000 to enhance her work.

A nurse practitioner and native of St. Louis, Ms. Bentley was inspired to enter the healthcare field after her diagnosis of uterine cancer in 1975.

Ms. Bentley founded CHIPS in 1990, and it remains the only free health clinic serving the

mostly uninsured residents of north St. Louis. In its first year, CHIPS served about 250 clients in its meager facility in the basement of a local church. In 1991, the clinic moved to a new 5,600-square-foot facility. Currently run by a staff of 10 full and parttime employees, along with a core of 19 volunteer professionals, CHIPS provides health screenings and primary-level health care to about 1,000 clients a month through both its outreach and in facility services.

Ms. Bentley has also implemented a unique outreach program to provide prevention and health education in non-traditional community settings including banks, grocery stores, beauty salons, barbershops, and homeless centers. Ms. Bentley also promotes workforce development by hiring and training lay health educators to go door-to-door, enrolling clients, and has implemented an intergenerational program in which teens in the youth development program work with senior citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ms. Bentley for this national award, and express my gratitude for her determination and leadership. Her work among the medically underserved has undoubtedly inspired many others in St. Louis and elsewhere to take action. It is an honor to recognize her today for her important work and this well deserved award.

IN HONOR OF SHARON KELSO

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to commend an amazing woman from my congressional district, Sharon Kelso. Sharon has been one of the most positive forces in Fairfax County throughout the years and I am proud of all that she has accomplished to help those less fortunate throughout the county. She is a friend and someone that I admire greatly. Sharon will be retiring after faithful and selfless service to United Community Ministries and the people of Fairfax County.

The main legacy Sharon will leave behind is her work as Executive Director of United Community Ministries. When she first began working for UCM, the agency had not existed for long, and its focus was smaller than what Sharon thought it could accomplish. With her vision and dedication, UCM has grown into one of the most important organizations in northern Virginia. One of her most lasting contributions was to establish the first walk-in clinic for the uninsured using volunteer doctors, nurses and technicians. Since that time, the citizens of Fairfax County have seen additional clinics open up for those without health insurance.

While her work for UCM would be enough to fill anyone's time, Sharon wanted to give even more assistance to her community. She has served on numerous boards and committees to help better Fairfax County for all who chose to make it their home. As Co-Chair of the Homeless Oversight Committee, Sharon has helped to implement strategies to prevent homelessness throughout the county. Knowing that affordable housing is one of the most important issues in this area, she has worked on the Affordable Dwelling Unit Task Force which

ensures that the affordable dwelling ordinances are effective, and through her service on the Fairfax Committee of 100 Board of Directors she has helped evaluate the lack of affordable housing for those who need it.

Sharon Kelso has also taken on an advocacy role and was often lobbying for issues relating to human services needs, childcare, child abuse and neglect, health and mental health care and homelessness. She also worked with her local Chamber of Commerce to lobby the Fairfax Board of Supervisors to maintain affordable housing. It is through her efforts that these issues have been brought to the forefront for the leaders and community activists of Fairfax County.

While Sharon is retiring from UCM and moving out of the area, I am certain she will continue to work on behalf of those who need help the most. Her work has vastly improved the lives of thousands of families throughout the community and Virginia. Sharon's vision and dedication has touched many people and will ensure a bright future for generations to come. I congratulate Sharon on her retirement. More importantly, I say thank you for making such a difference in the Northern Virginia area.

ON THE PASSING OF BUDDY BRACKIN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of Newman C. "Buddy" Brackin. Buddy had a tremendous impact in my district over nearly 28 years as Okaloosa County Clerk of the Circuit Court.

The son of a former Florida Senate president, Buddy came into politics with a solid base of knowledge. He had taught middle and high school in Northwest Florida and worked in real estate, but he knew it was time for him to run for the Okaloosa Clerk's office in 1976, and his win in that election reaffirmed his belief. His successive re-election was a clear indicator that Buddy was the right man for the job. Indeed, it was not until his diagnosis of pancreatic cancer that he decided not to seek an eighth term.

Buddy's tenure as County Clerk saw the office of the Clerk nearly triple in size, and with his help the office saw much-needed improvements in the smoothness of its day-to-day operations. It is doubtful that many would have disagreed with his intent six months ago to seek an eighth term, so respected was he on both a professional and personal level by all who knew him.

My prayers go out to Buddy's wife Blanche, his sons Mark and Bryan, and all others who mourn the loss of a great public servant. He loved his family as they loved him, his loss will have a vast impact on so many.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is with no small amount of sorrow that I tell of the passing of Buddy Brackin from this world, and his family is in my thoughts and prayers.

HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT
GEORGE HERBERT WALKER
BUSH ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 653, a resolution honoring President George Herbert Walker Bush, a true statesman and American hero, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday.

President Bush has devoted his life to the service of our nation. As a highly decorated Navy pilot in World War II; a distinguished Congressman and Ways and Means Committee Member from Texas's Seventh Congressional District; a successful Ambassador to the United Nations; Liaison to China; Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; Vice President; and President of the United States—George Bush has ably served our country for over 50 years.

During that time, President Bush has exemplified the very highest values and principles of public service—honesty, integrity, responsibility, loyalty and patriotism. This is the Bush legacy and the example he set for all of us.

As a staff member who served in the Bush White House, I was privileged to learn this firsthand. His leadership as President was critical to resolving the challenges of that time: the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany; the end of Communism and beginning of democracy in Eastern Europe; a free trade policy and the lowering of trade restrictions and tariffs during the GATT talks; and of course, the success of Desert Storm. At home, he supported and signed the historic Americans with Disabilities Act; and the important amendments to the Clean Air Act, arguably the most important environmental legislation ever passed.

In his retirement, President Bush is still making history. I had the privilege of being present in College Station last weekend for his most recent birthday parachute jumps, for which he earned parachutist's wings from the Army's Golden Knights. The wings included a small bronze star, echoing his unplanned jump during World War II, when his torpedo bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire south of Japan.

Mr. Speaker, all of us congratulate President Bush on his birthday, and express our gratitude for his remarkable and unselfish public service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO STEVE
WARDELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Steve Wardell and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a Mineral County Commissioner. His tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for his constituents. As Steve celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy

of commitment to the people of Mineral County and the State of Colorado.

During his tenure as commissioner, Steve worked on a number of issues for his Mineral County community. He was instrumental in putting together maps and a tabulation for the public rights of way in Mineral County. He also was involved in the approval of the preliminary plat of the Village at Wolf Creek, began the process for building a new Health Clinic in Mineral County, and pursued donations and grants to help repave the local airport runway.

As a dedicated member of the community, Steve volunteers his time to numerous civic organizations. He does the maintenance work on the county's ambulances, saving the Ambulance Board money to use on needed upgrades and equipment. He also is a volunteer fireman, and is always willing to help wherever he is needed.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that County Commissioner Steve Wardell has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his county and the people of Colorado as a County Commissioner for Mineral County. I am honored to bring his hard work and achievements to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Steve, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, my thoughts and prayers go out to Mrs. Reagan and her family as our nation mourns the loss of President Reagan.

Our nation has lost a leader. President Reagan inspired Americans to a higher purpose. He believed, and led all Americans to believe, that our country could be the "shining city on the hill." It was his spirit and faith in American values that helped reinforce America's faith in itself.

I was serving in the North Dakota Legislature on the day President Reagan was shot. I remember the somber atmosphere and deep concern from Republicans and Democrats alike as legislators gathered around a television anxiously awaiting word on the President's condition. With characteristic optimism, President Reagan went on to recover from his wounds and continue to lead the nation as our President.

President Reagan's passing brings us sadness at the loss of an American leader, but reminds all of us of his lasting legacy of service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING CAROL CAROTHERS
(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NAMI
MAINE)

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carol Carothers, who was recently

named a 2004 national Community Health Leader by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her work to prevent inappropriate incarceration and improve the treatment of people with mental illnesses. Ms. Carothers was one of only ten people nationally to be selected for this prestigious award, which includes a grant of more than \$105,000 to support her work.

Ms. Carothers is executive director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Maine. During her tenure, Ms. Carothers has dedicated herself to assisting families of people who have mental illness. Under her leadership, NAMI Maine has become a respected source for information on effective practices in treatment and diversion of the incarcerated mentally ill. Ms. Carothers has successfully assembled a broad-based coalition of families, inmates, providers, corrections and law enforcement professionals, State officials, and advocates to identify problems and solutions for inmates with mental illness. The program Ms. Carothers pioneered in Maine has become a model for other States seeking to train prison personnel to recognize the signs of mental illness and provide appropriate responses.

The suicide of an 18 year-old man in a maximum security prison 3 years ago inspired Ms. Carothers' interest in the plight of the incarcerated mentally ill. She now assists the State government in assessing the quality of prison programs, and provides education and training to law enforcement and corrections officers to promote more humane treatment.

NAMI Maine's Assistant Director put it best by saying, "[Carol is] propelled by the personal situations that illustrate the inhumane and immoral quality of inadequate treatment in the criminal justice system."

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more. I'm honored to recognize Ms. Carothers for this national award, and express my gratitude for her determination and leadership. She has inspired many others in Maine and elsewhere to take action. This well-deserved award is confirmation of the importance of her work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENISE L. MAJETTE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Ms. MAJETTE. Mr. Speaker, on June 8th and 9th, 2004 I was not able to be here for three roll call votes.

On rollcall number 229 regarding H. Res. 663, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall number 230, approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall number 231, regarding H. Res., honoring the late Honorable Ronald Wilson Reagan, I would have voted "yea".

THE RETIREMENT OF NREL DIRECTOR VICE ADMIRAL RICHARD TRULY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, Vice Admiral Richard Truly, director of DOE's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), announced that he plans to retire in early November after more than seven years as NREL's director.

Although I am not greatly surprised by this announcement, I am saddened by it. I know that a national search will soon be launched to select the Admiral's successor, and I expect that his successor will represent NREL well in future years. But Admiral Truly has so vividly marked the last five years I've spent working on renewable energy policy in the House of Representatives. It is hard to imagine NREL without him.

In a letter to staff, Admiral Truly wrote, "I honestly believe that it is at the intersection of our energy use, our environment, our economic well being and our national security that society finds the greatest engineering and scientific challenges on Earth today. Each of you at NREL are at the heart of this challenge and opportunity. What you do really, really matters to our nation and our world. I feel a deep privilege to have been a small part of your successes over these years."

This last statement exemplifies the Admiral's approach to leadership. He was always quick to credit NREL staff for their achievements and believed in the importance of teamwork. He was admired by his colleagues at NREL and, I think, inspired them to work harder and aim higher.

For the Admiral, no challenge was too great. He wasn't content to rise to the rank of vice admiral in the Navy. He was also a naval aviator, test pilot and astronaut, logging more than 7,500 hours of flight. His astronaut career included work in the Air Force's Manned Orbiting Laboratory program, and NASA's Apollo, Skylab, Apollo-Soyuz and Space Shuttle programs. He piloted the 747/Enterprise approach and landing tests in 1977. He lifted off in November 1981 as pilot aboard Columbia, the first shuttle to be reflown into space, establishing a world circular orbit altitude record. He commanded Challenger in August-September 1983, the first night launch/landing mission of the Space Shuttle program. For all these achievements, President Reagan awarded the Presidential Citizen's Medal to Admiral Truly in 1989. Admiral Truly capped off his space career by serving as NASA's eighth Administrator under President George H.W. Bush from 1989-1992.

During his seven years at NREL, Admiral Truly has raised the visibility of the laboratory to new heights. NREL is considered the premier laboratory for renewable energy research and development and a leading laboratory for energy efficiency R&D. As a world leader in the development of these technologies, NREL is involved in fifty different areas of scientific research, from solar photovoltaics and wind energy to hydrogen fuel cells and distributed energy generation.

As co-chair of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, I have worked hard

to increase funding for NREL's important research and generally to raise the profile of renewable energy and energy efficiency in Congress. It has been an uphill climb, as these programs have had to compete for funding with others. What has inspired me to keep fighting the fight has been knowing that Admiral Truly and his team are back in Colorado, pushing technological limits, dreaming up new ways for us to transition to a clean energy future. Admiral Truly may not be with NREL in the years to come, but I know he will always be there in spirit, urging us all to continue to aim for the stars.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOB GEORGE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise with considerable sadness to pay tribute to the life and memory of Bob George of Aspen, Colorado. Bob recently passed away at the age of sixty-one. With the loss of Bob, Aspen loses a friend of the community. As his family mourns his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Bob first moved to Aspen in 1964, after attending the University of Colorado at Boulder. Soon after, he married Karin Knudson, with whom he went on to have three children. In 1967, he found work with Mason & Morse, a real estate firm, and with a good college friend, they worked hard and eventually assumed control of the company. The two partners and friends put much time and effort in transforming Mason & Morse Real Estate into the largest firm in the Aspen Valley.

As a spirited business leader, Bob achieved great success. He was the president of two professional organizations, the Aspen Board of Realtors and the Aspen Chamber Resort Association. His dedication to the community included memberships in the Aspen Elks Club, Mountain Rescue and Rotary Club. He was also president of the Aspen School Board and spent time volunteering for the Sunshine Kids and Ducks Unlimited.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Bob George. He was a natural business leader and a valuable member of his community. More importantly, Bob will always be remembered as a consummate family man. I wish to extend my deepest regrets and sympathy to Bob's family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 14, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and thus missed rollcall votes #232, #233, #234 and #235. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on #232, approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the

Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003; "yea" on #233, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the need to provide prostate cancer patients with meaningful access to information on treatment options; "yea" on #234, to provide rapid acquisition authority to the Secretary of Defense to respond to combat emergencies; and "yea" on #235, honoring former President George Herbert Walker Bush on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

OCC AND THE BANK-REALTOR FIGHT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD an article recently published in the American Banker, entitled, "OCC Caught in the Middle of Bank-Realtor Fight."

[From the American Banker, June 2, 2004]

OCC CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF BANK-REALTOR FIGHT

(By Todd Davenport)

The possibility that banks will one day sell houses makes the real estate brokers' lobby shudder and has galvanized it to fight against any incursion it perceives.

For the last three years the most obvious threat has been a joint proposal by the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve Board that would let financial holding companies and financial subsidiaries offer real estate brokerage services.

But in the past year the National Association of Realtors has targeted the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's recent efforts to stake out its preemption authority. The trade group says the OCC's ability to insulate national banks from state laws that require real estate and mortgage licensing is also a threat.

The OCC has countered that there is little, if any, connection between preemption and real estate brokerage, but right or wrong, the trade group has become an unexpected and powerful opponent to the OCC's preemption regulations at a time when it needs all the friends it can get.

The regulations were finalized in January, but some lawmakers on Capitol Hill have threatened to take action against them.

"The Comptroller's position is that this has nothing to do with real estate brokerage, but I don't think the Comptroller has been successful in deflecting the awareness of people on the Hill that the Realtors are concerned," said Gil Schwartz, a lawyer with Schwartz & Ballen LLP in Washington.

The Realtors "have brought a lot of people focused at the local level," Mr. Schwartz said. "They have brought much more awareness of not just what can happen now but what can happen in the future."

The group says preemption is relevant, because the OCC could let banks into real estate brokerage independent of the joint Fed-Treasury proposal, which was made under the auspices of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act.

"Right now a national bank could apply to the OCC for real estate brokerage to be considered a permissible banking activity," said Lynn King, a regulatory representative at the trade group.

Realtors say the OCC could rely on an existing interpretation that authorizes national banks to operate as "finders." That broad power effectively allows a bank to act as the middleman in many financial transactions.

Some banking lawyers say they doubt the OCC will use that interpretation to allow real estate brokerage.

"Finder authority had been on the books for years, and that never was perceived or regarded as giving national banks authority to sell insurance as an agent or broker on an unrestricted basis," said Ken Ehrlich, a lawyer with Nutter McLennen & Fish LLP in Boston.

But real estate brokerage may be consistent with the business of banking, he said.

"National banks by virtue of the business they conduct every day are arguably fully equipped to get into the real estate brokerage business and do it well without raising any safety-and-soundness issues, significant consumer protection issues, and without a whole lot, if any state regulation," Mr. Ehrlich said.

An OCC spokesman would not discuss its plans, but in the past agency officials have said they are not contemplating the extension of real estate brokerage powers to national banks.

Realtors say they want certainty.

"Everything that they've said in testimony, everything that they've said publicly, we just want them to put in some sort of official format that we can rely on for the future of our industry," Ms. King said.

The threat is imminent, because banking companies "want to put real estate people in the bank or the operating subsidiary," she said. "They want to put them as close as they can to the loan, the mortgage transaction."

Doing so would be anticompetitive, Ms. King said. OCC preemption—which a Connecticut judge said last week extends to operating subsidiaries—would give the mortgage arms of large banks "a free pass on all these state laws and registrations and licensing," and "our members aren't going to be able to play in that field."

Banking lawyers took the opposite view.

"The Realtors' position is anticompetitive," said Melanie Fein, a lawyer at Goodwin Procter LLP in Washington. "Just like the securities industry, the insurance industry, the data processing industry, the courier industry, they all have fought against bank involvement."

The group is behaving "like Chicken Little," but "the sky is not going to fall—and if it does fall, it would be to the benefit of consumers," she said.

Realtors say they would stand down in this battle if the OCC were to write regulations keeping banks out of real estate brokerage. They also said that if the long-pending Fed-Treasury proposal disappeared, the Realtors' opposition to OCC preemption would disappear with it.

(The proposal has been on hold, because the Realtors have successfully lobbied for enactment of spending bills the last two years that have barred the Treasury from using its budget to finalize the proposal.)

"We almost view this thing as the Trojan horse at the gates," said Joseph Ventrone, the trade group's managing director of regulatory and industry relations. If the Fed and the Treasury were to drop their December 2000 proposal, "our vehemence on OCC" preemption "would not be as strong, would probably not be at all."

To some, that's evidence that the Realtors do not have a legitimate beef with the preemption rules.

The group "developed a strategy where they believe they can use the debate going on today about preemption to insulate themselves from competition from the national bank industry," said Howard Cayne, a lawyer with Arnold & Porter LLP in Washington. "But they don't have an inherent interest in preemption."

Perhaps not, but their stance on preemption has made for unusual politics.

The group is allied with state bank regulators against preemption, even though they continue to disagree about whether banks ought to have real estate brokerage powers. More than 30 states have said that banks may offer such services, but few banks have done so.

"We share some fundamental, common beliefs," including "that major changes in public policy should come from legislative bodies, and shifts in applicable state and federal law should be clearly intended by Congress," said John Ryan, an executive vice president at the Conference of State Bank Supervisors. "Our appeal is philosophical; theirs is dollars and sense," but regardless, "they are influential businessmen in their local communities, and they are influential in the political process."

Donald Lampe, a lawyer with Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice PLLC in Greensboro, N.C., said the emergence of the realty group on preemption "changes the dynamic" of the debate.

"That they have stood up and raised their hand over these rules is a significant event," he said. "That doesn't mean that I think they are correct, but the Realtors cannot ever be ignored in this town."

That banks and real estate agents will continue to spar seems certain.

Banks "have to continue to grow the portfolio; they need new lines of business," Ms. King said. "The best line of business right now and in the future is real estate. They already have insurance. They already have securities. Other than real estate, there's not a whole heck of a lot else out there."

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL G. BRYCE, USMC

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional officer of Marines, Captain Samuel G. Bryce. Captain Bryce will soon complete a highly successful two-year tour as the Marine Corps' Assistant Liaison Officer to the U.S. House of Representatives. It is truly a pleasure for me to recognize a few of his many outstanding achievements.

Captain Bryce entered our Corps as a private in January 1994 after graduating with honors from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. After graduating Recruit Training at Parris Island, he went on to serve as an infantryman with the Marine Corps Security Force Company in Rodman, Panama where he participated in Operation Safe Haven, a humanitarian mission in support of Cuban migrants. He followed this tour with service as a Non Commissioned Officer with the illustrious Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team Company in Norfolk, Virginia. As a squad leader with F.A.S.T., then Corporal Bryce participated in Operation Fairwinds in Haiti, providing convoy and site security for U.S. supported nation-building projects. Shortly after returning from Haiti, his team was dispatched to Bahrain to establish security at U.S. Naval facilities in response to the Khobar Towers bombing. During his final months with F.A.S.T. he was promoted to Sergeant and selected for the Enlisted Commissioning Program.

In September of 1997 he attended Officer Candidate School. Upon graduation he was commissioned and then sent to the Basic Officer Course and the Infantry Officer Course. In November of 1998 he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment where he was given command of 3rd Platoon, Company C. In this capacity he deployed with his battalion as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit where he participated in Operation Stabilise in East Timor. Upon return he was assigned as commander of the 81 mm Mortar Platoon, which he led during a subsequent overseas tour with the 31st MEU. During his final year with the battalion, he served as the Executive Officer, and ultimately the Commanding Officer of Weapons Company.

Completing this tour in March 2002, Captain Bryce was assigned as the Marine Corps' Assistant Liaison Officer to the U.S. House of Representatives. For the past two years he has expertly represented the Marine Corps on Capitol Hill and contributed enormously to the success of the Liaison Office's mission. His skills and diligent attention to duty enabled him to successfully lead five Staff Delegations to every major Marine Corps facility in the United States, assisting Congressional staff in learning how the Marine Corps fights, trains, and lives. The reputation he earned on these evolutions was such that he was also given the task of leading several Congressional Delegations overseas, including my own to Malaysia and the first into Haiti after the new President took power.

The real strength or Captain Bryce's time on Capitol Hill was felt through his education and outreach activities. He organized monthly briefs for staff members to assist them in understanding the capabilities and program needs of the Corps, and was the driving force behind the Capitol Hill Running Club. Under his leadership the club grew to nearly 100 runners and has seen unprecedented success in preparing members for running the Marine Corps Marathon. As he leaves, there will be a large gap for the Marine Corps to fill on Capitol Hill. His initiative, leadership, and tireless efforts as the Assistant House Liaison Officer have had a lasting impact on improving the war fighting capabilities and the quality of life for Marines throughout the Marine Corps. Most importantly, he has epitomized all of those qualities that America has come to expect of her Marines—absolutely impeccable integrity, moral character and professionalism.

As he reports to his next assignment as a student at the Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia I want wish him, his lovely wife Stacey, and their new son Griffin continuing success. Fair winds and following seas, Marine.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT UNION NATIONAL MONUMENT

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming 50th anniversary of the legislation that created Fort Union National Monument in my home state of

New Mexico. At Fort Union National Monument, visitors can learn about life at this frontier outpost during the early days of the American settlement of the West. As a key stopover point for travelers along the Old Santa Fe Trail, Fort Union was witness to countless expeditions, Indian raids, and commercial gatherings during its short but storied existence. Today, the venerable post is a shadow of its former grandeur, but even in ruins, it stands as an impressive memorial to the countless soldiers of the frontier army who passed through.

On June 28, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law legislation authorizing the U.S. Department of Interior to acquire the site and remaining structures of Fort Union for national monument purposes. With strong backing from the New Mexico State Legislature and Governor Edwin Mechem, U.S. Representative John Dempsey and U.S. Senator Clinton P. Anderson introduced the bills that ultimately created the present day Fort Union National Monument. Their foresight and hard work all those decades ago are worth remembering today.

Few places today inspire imagination about the American frontier experience as does Fort Union National Monument. Located in the Mora Valley in northeastern New Mexico, the 720-acre National Park Service domain contains an array of cultural and natural resources. Its principal features—the ruins of the Santa Fe Trail, the ruins of the Fort Union military post, and the dazzling prairie scenery—daily attract travelers from around the world.

Fort Union was established in 1851 by Lieutenant Colonel Edwin V. Sumner as a guardian and protector of the Santa Fe Trail. During its forty-year history, three different forts were constructed close together. The third and final Fort Union was the largest in the American Southwest, and functioned as a military garrison, territorial arsenal, and military supply depot for the Southwest.

As a military post to protect travel and settlement for forty years, Fort Union played a key role in shaping the destiny of the Southwest. During the first decade of its existence, the fort stood as the guardian of the Santa Fe Trail. The fort acted as a federal presence in the Territory of New Mexico. The Civil War added to the fort's fame at the battle of Glorieta Pass, where Union soldiers stopped the invading Southern columns. Historian Robert Utley noted, "The ruins of Fort Union graphically commemorate the achievements of the men who won the West."

On February 21, 1891, singing "There's a Land that is Fairer than This," the Army marched out of Fort Union for good. The post lapsed into ruins in the following decades. Roofs collapsed, walls of buildings slowly crumbled under the onslaught of the elements, and grass grew high on the vast parade ground.

After World War II, people in New Mexico revived an earlier campaign to create the Fort Union National Monument. New Mexicans had learned that the previous efforts failed because of the lack of local interest in the project. This time local citizens and interest groups decided to lead the movement to ultimate success. Fort Union, now in private hands, was scheduled to be demolished. With a strong will to save the historic site, local citizens took the issue to the Las Vegas-San Miguel Chamber of Commerce. On June 20,

1949, board members of the Chamber voted to seek aid from the federal government and the State of New Mexico to preserve Fort Union for all time. The Chamber's action was instrumental in creating the present-day Fort Union National Monument. We continue to be grateful for their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Fort Union National Monument is open to the public throughout the year. Interpretive programs are offered with living history talks and demonstrations on summer weekends, giving visitors the flavor of life in a frontier fort. The visitor center has displays of military equipment and clothing, a bookstore, Santa Fe Trail information and films. Using this abandoned military post, the National Park Service has established a dialogue between the past and the present. The place has been serving society as a museum of the past, a classroom of the present, and a model for the future, and it deserves the honor of a national treasure.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DORALYN GENOVA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Doralyn Genova and thank her for her dedication to Colorado as a Mesa County Commissioner. Her dedication and tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for her constituents. As Doralyn celebrates her retirement, let it be known that she leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Mesa County and the State of Colorado.

A third generation Mesa County native, Doralyn graduated from Mesa State College, and ran her own business, Data Supplies. When Doralyn was elected to serve as Mesa County Commissioner in 1988, she was only the second woman elected to the position of county commissioner in Mesa County's history. She serves on Club 20's board of directors, the Governor's Interregional Council on Smart Growth, the Colorado Emergency Planning Commission, Headstart Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee, and the Mesa County Economic Development Council for Sustainable Agriculture. She also served as president of 16 Western District Counties, and was chairperson for the Land Use Committee for Colorado Counties Incorporated and serves currently as the Secretary. Doralyn's community involvement also includes membership in the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce, Mesa County Women's Network, Mesa County Historical Society, Mesa County Cattleman's Association, and Mesa County League of Women Voters.

Doralyn's dedication to her community has garnered her numerous awards and recognition over the years. She was "Westpeoples" Woman of the Year in 1986 and was the first recipient of Club 20's Dan Noble Award. She has also received awards from the Colorado Division Disaster Emergency Services, Glade Park Volunteer Fire Department, Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services, and Mesa County Friends of 4-H. Most importantly, Doralyn is dedicated to her husband Mike, and sons Anthony, Nicholas, and Dominic.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Doralyn Genova before this body of Congress and this nation, and to congratulate her on an outstanding career of public service. Her selfless dedication to her community and the people of Colorado as a Mesa County Commissioner is truly remarkable. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT J. RIDENOUR

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert J. Ridenour on receiving the 2004 Citizen of the Year award from the Bedford Rotary Club of Bedford, Pennsylvania. His efforts to preserve the history and culture of my home town of Everett have positively impacted our community and well beyond.

For most people, after a lifetime of working, the well deserved rest and relaxation that comes with retirement is usually cherished and savored. However, Robert Ridenour decided on a different path and instead chose to spend his retirement working to improve his community in any way possible.

It has been said that wisdom comes with age, and in the case of Robert Ridenour this old cliché proves to be true. In recent years he has had the foresight to dedicate his energy to preserving history, which will ground and educate younger generations while guiding them towards future progress. His tireless efforts to promote Pennsylvania's history will benefit his community for countless years to come.

Mr. Ridenour is the personification of the Bedford Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self." He has demonstrated enthusiasm and care for the county which he has served, and his spirit and dedication have infiltrated his every action. The legacy he has made is one that every American should emulate.

As a pillar of strength within his community of Bedford County, Mr. Ridenour has been a role model and leader who is admired by many. For his incomparable generosity and commitment to excellence, Robert Ridenour deserves the highest recognition.

IN HONOR OF EDIE KARAS, COMMUNITY STALWART

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my dear friend Edie Karas, one of the most dedicated and energetic community members in my Central California district, and indeed the nation and the world. A life-long resident of the Monterey Peninsula, Edie has played an active and vital role in countless civic organizations. Along with her late husband of more than 50 years, the former Monterey County Supervisor Sam Karas, Edie made up half a dynamic duo of public service. Since Sam passed away in 2003, Edie has carried on with that tradition of service to both her neighbors next door and her neighbors around the world.

A short account of Edie's service would include the time that Edie has donated to the Monterey Civic Club, Monterey Recreation Committee, Robinson Jeffers' Tor House, Alliance on Aging, Monterey Bay Symphony, State Theatre Preservation Society, and the list goes on. In addition, several years ago, Edie and her late husband, the former County Supervisor Sam Karas, traveled to Bosnia where they served as international election observers.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Edie's work on behalf of the Big Sur Health Center, which will recognize her service in a tribute on June 18, 2004. I became involved with the clinic in the late '70's as a member of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors. At that time the Big Sur Clinic had more certified EMTs per capita than any place in the U.S. and provided free emergency services and an ambulance maintained by the Red Cross. Today the Health Center serves many of the outpatient health needs of the rural Big Sur community in a modest facility made up of two 35 year old portable trailers and a treasury of heart, soul, and dedication supplied by its volunteers. For much of the last decade, Team Karas has been instrumental in its growth and success.

When they joined the Center's board in the late 1990s, the Center faced deep financial hardship. Sam took immediate action and began to contact the Pebble Beach Foundation and other funding sources outside the immediate Big Sur community. His efforts put the Center on the map for charitable foundations and government agencies. The Center soon regained its financial footing and was back on the path to fiscal health.

However, while Sam was out front making the initial calls and receiving the credit, I have always suspected that it was Edie who did the work. I see evidence of that in the fact that the Center will soon replace its venerable trailers with a new building, a development in which Edie has played no small part in seeing to fruition. Edie continues to be the spark of energy that animates the Center's fundraising efforts and every other cause that she embraces. So it is with true pleasure that I join with the Big Sur community and the people of Monterey County in recognizing Edie Karas for her service to the Big Sur Health Center. I wish Edie and the Center the best of health.

SALUTING JUDGE BRUCE EINHORN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join in saluting my friend, Judge Bruce Einhorn, Chair of the Pacific Southwest Regional Board of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). He is a remarkable man whose accomplishments are legion.

During Judge Einhorn's tenure as Regional Chair, the organization pressed law enforcement authorities for vigorous application of appropriate hate crimes laws, and successfully opposed the deceptively named "Racial Privacy Initiative." He helped the ADL prevent the spread of hatred and intolerance through the creation of new and ongoing programs designed to fight the defamation of the Jewish

people and ensure justice and fair treatment for all. He also served as Chair of the ADL's San Fernando, Conejo and Antelope Valley Boards.

He is presently an ADL National Commissioner and is a member of both the League's Executive Committee for the Pacific Southwest Region and its Latino-Jewish Round Table. Also, he is a founding member of both the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC and the Museum of Tolerance in West Los Angeles.

In addition to his work with non-profits, Judge Einhorn has developed an impressive legal career. He is a well-respected Los Angeles U.S. Immigration Judge. He also serves as Adjunct Professor of International Human Rights Law and War Crimes Studies at Pepperdine University's School of Law, where he received the 1997 David W. McKibbin Excellence in Teaching Award. For 11 years, Judge Einhorn served as a trial attorney and later as a Deputy Director and Litigation Chief for the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, the agency responsible for seeking the identification and prosecution of Nazi war criminals residing illegally in the United States.

Judge Einhorn's commitment to civil rights, justice and tolerance for all people has been repeatedly recognized. He is the proud recipient of the U.S. Attorney General's Special Commendation Award and the State of Israel Bonds Lifetime Professional Achievement Award. In October 1999, in the presence of President Bill Clinton, he also received the Ginsberg Prize for Leadership in Civil Rights from the Anti-Defamation League at its National Commission Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Please join me in honoring Judge Bruce Einhorn and thanking him for his outstanding contributions to our community and for his steadfast commitment to the ADL's critical mission.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOHN MUSGRAVE ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Bohn Musgrave, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 31, 2004.

Mr. Musgrave was born in 1904 in a log cabin in Michigan's rural Upper Peninsula. After graduating from high school and attending Central Michigan University, he taught in a two-room country school and then worked as a principal in the Sebawing School District. Following his marriage to wife Doris in 1926 and the birth of his two children, Bohn earned a degree in Agriculture from Michigan State University and worked as an Agricultural Agent for Kalkaska and Mecosta Counties. In 1954, Mr. Musgrave relocated to the Lansing area and worked as a supervisor in the Michigan State University Extension Service until his retirement in 1969.

Even after leaving the workforce and surviving a bout with bone cancer in his right leg, Bohn stayed active, traveling the world with

Doris, visiting all 50 states and 41 countries. After his wife's death in 1988, Bohn took on the role of family historian, compiling and self-publishing five books of poems, personal anecdotes, and memories for his family and close friends. His fondness of history and love of Michigan led him to contribute heavily to A History of Columbus Township, published in 2000, and to an oral history compiled by Michigan State University about the logging industry. Ever eager to impress upon young minds the significance of days past, he has visited elementary schools in the Lansing area to share his knowledge of the history of the Upper Peninsula. Mr. Musgrave is also a charter member of Haslett Community Church, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Mr. Speaker, Bohn Musgrave has been a devoted father and dedicated worker. He is a master storyteller, poet, and artist. Today, he still resides in Haslett, Michigan. I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Bohn Musgrave's 100th birthday.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 4278, the Improving Access to Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities Act.

The bill reauthorizes the Assistive Technology State Grant Program, and the State Protection and Advocacy program. It also will help to ensure a larger share of the resources distributed under the program goes directly to individuals with disabilities. Assistive technology devices include a broad range of aids, such as wheelchairs, communication devices and computer hardware that help individuals compensate for living with a disability.

The Assistive Technology State Grant program was first enacted in 1988 as a program to provide states funds to establish an infrastructure for increasing access and distribution to assistive technology devices. Millions of Americans depend on assistive technology devices to remove barriers to education, employment, and even daily communication.

The bill also funds the State Protection and Advocacy programs. Its purpose is to assist individuals in overcoming barriers in the workplace and in the government and making assistive technology more accessible to individuals with disabilities throughout the state.

I would like to thank Representatives BUCK McKEON, JOHN BOEHNER, DALE KILDEE and their staffs for working with me to make changes to the bill regarding State Protection and Advocacy programs during the committee markup process. The bill now includes changes that would allow Protection and Advocacy systems to carry over "program income" for 2 additional years. These are funds generated by program activities, typically attorneys' fees reimbursements, for 2 additional years.

Under current law, Protection and Advocacy programs can carry over "program income" for

one additional fiscal year past the year in which the program income was received. This can be very difficult, particularly for small states where the award could be sizes that they are not prepared to properly spend and can not budget for. I hope this change will enable Protection and Advocacy programs that receive "program income" to invest the funds back into the program. This will allow states to put the additional funding to the best use possible for people with disabilities without being constrained by time.

Speaker, I ask my colleague to support this bipartisan bill that will provide comprehensive technology-related assistance for adults and children with disabilities.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAC MYERS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today and pay tribute to Mac Myers and thank him for his outstanding commitment to serving the people of Colorado as District Attorney for the 9th Judicial District. His years of service have done much to enhance the safety of the community and the prestige of the District Attorney's Office. As Mac celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a wonderful and strong legacy of dedication to the District Attorney's Office and the citizens of Colorado.

Mac graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in English, and received his law degree from the University of Denver. He worked as a deputy district attorney in Colorado Springs and Breckenridge before being hired to serve the people of Pitkin, Garfield, and Rio Blanco counties as a deputy district attorney in the 9th Judicial District in 1986. In 1996, Mac was elected district attorney for the 9th Judicial District, and was subsequently re-elected in 2000. During his tenure as district attorney, he has worked to enhance the communication and relationship between his office and the local police departments. He has also raised awareness and increased prosecutions for sexual assault and domestic violence cases, as well as promoting drug abuse prevention programs.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that District Attorney Frank Daniels has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his district and the people of Colorado as the District Attorney for the 9th Judicial District. I am honored to bring his hard work and achievements to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Mac, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

HONORING CHRISTOPHER CLARK

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christopher Clark, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Johnson Matthey Inc., on the occasion of his retirement after 42 years of dedicated service to the company.

Johnson Matthey is a global advanced technology company with operations in such areas as catalysts for chemical processes; emissions control catalysts for automotive, diesel and stationary source applications; pharmaceutical materials; and materials for medical and industrial products. In 1909, Johnson Matthey opened its principal operating company in Pennsylvania. Today, its North American corporate headquarters is located in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Clark's career with Johnson Matthey is long and distinguished. Throughout his 42 years with Johnson Matthey, he had a wide range of experience with all aspects of the Company's operations. Mr. Clark joined Johnson Matthey in 1962 and soon after was appointed product manager in 1969. Six years later, Mr. Clark was promoted to product group manager and from 1979 to 1984, he was the marketing manager of Johnson Matthey's Metal Products Division in the USA. Mr. Clark went to the UK in 1984 as the general manager of the company's noble metals fabrication business.

Mr. Clark was appointed executive director of Johnson Matthey in March 1990 and then in October 1991, he assumed responsibility for the company's Materials Technology Division. In 1996 he was promoted to chief operating officer and, in 1998, Mr. Clark was appointed chief executive officer of the company.

During Mr. Clark's tenure as CEO of Johnson Matthey, the company's operations in Chester County have undergone significant expansion. For example, the Emissions Control Technologies operations in Wayne, Pennsylvania have produced more catalysts for the automotive industry than any other facility in the world. Johnson Matthey has also established remarkable gas-processing technologies in West Chester, Pennsylvania under the leadership and supervision of Mr. Clark.

In May 2002, Mr. Clark was awarded the Society of Chemical Industries' Centenary Medal and, in June 2003, he was honored again with the International Precious Metals Institute's Junichiro Tanaka Distinguished Achievement Award for his significant contribution to the advancement of the precious metals industry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring a highly successful businessman and exemplary citizen, Christopher Clark, for his many years of contributions and distinguished service to Johnson Matthey and to his community, state, and nation. And I may ask that we wish him the very best of success and happiness with his retirement.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT KATHERINE DUNHAM BE
RECOGNIZED FOR HER
GROUNDBREAKING ACHIEVEMENTS
IN DANCE, THEATER,
MUSIC, AND EDUCATION, AS
WELL AS HER WORK AS AN
ACTIVIST STRIVING FOR RACIAL
EQUALITY THROUGHOUT THE
WORLD

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 7, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to salute Katherine

Dunham, a woman who raised herself from her humble origins in East St. Louis through energy, determinism and formidable talent to become a world famous cultural icon and treasure. Having earned her bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees at the University of Chicago with the help of the prestigious Rosenwald fellowship. She has worked tirelessly her entire adult life helping others. She continues to contribute actively to her community even though just recently celebrated her 95th birthday. Today I recognize Katherine Dunham for her groundbreaking achievements in the performance arts, education and for her contributions as an activist striving for racial equality.

Katherine Dunham propelled the civil rights movement and opened doors or opportunity through her personal achievements as she became the first African-American to progress in her many fields of expertise.

Katherine Dunham merged her studies in anthropology with Caribbean and Brazilian dance whereby creating a new discipline. She utilized her education to create her many dance, performance art and education centers. In 1931 Dr. Dunham founded Les Ballet Negre, the first black dance company in the United States. In the years that followed, Katherine Dunham revolutionized American dance by incorporating the roots of black dance and ritual, and by transforming these elements into choreography accessible to all through the Katherine Dunham Technique.

Les Ballet Negre later became known as the Katherine Dunham Dance Company, which successfully toured over 60 countries in the 1940s.

In 1945 Dr. Dunham founded the Dunham School of Dance and Theatre in Manhattan. The Dunham School provided a centralized location for students to immerse themselves in dance technique while also providing education in the humanities, languages, ethics, philosophy, and drama. The school educated and raised countless inner-city youth, youth who would go on and make great change themselves.

In 1967 Dr. Dunham established the Performing Arts Training Center in East St. Louis, Missouri, which enrolled high-risk youth into programs in fine, performing and cultural arts. Katherine's outreach to some of the toughest members of the East St. Louis community often put her in harm's way. She put her life on the line constantly by recruiting gang members and known troublemakers. Katherine's goal was to stop the violence in the black community through the arts. She set out to transform their lives, and did so.

In 1970, only three years after the founding of Performing Arts Training Center, Dr. Dunham brought more than 40 of her students to the White House to perform for the Conference on Children.

Katherine Dunham was also a pioneer with a significant impact on Broadway. She broke new ground by becoming the first African-American director at the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Even though Katherine Dunham carried out a significant amount of work in the United States, she was never limited to helping only those within our Nation's borders. Katherine Dunham is also a passionate humanitarian who has lived in Haiti and consistently fought for Haitian rights and a better relationship between the United States and Haiti.

Responding to the desperate conditions of Haitian people in 1993, Katherine, at the age of 82, went on a 47-day hunger strike. She ended her hunger strike only when she was convinced, and rightfully so, that she was more valuable to the humanitarian fight, alive than dead. I recognize Dr. Katherine Dunham as one of the most passionate artists educators this country has ever seen.

For all these reasons and for receiving countless honors and awards, including more than 10 honorary doctorates, the Presidential Medal of Arts, the French Legion of Honor, and the NAACP's Lifetime Achievement Award, she has received for her work, I stand to salute Katherine Dunham, humanitarian, civil rights activist, and performance artist.

CONGRATULATING THE CHICAGO ZONING REFORM COMMISSION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chicago's Zoning Reform Commission and its Co-Chairmen, Alderman William J.P. Banks and David Mosena, for the recent completion of the new City of Chicago Zoning Code.

By understanding the changing needs of Chicago's residential and commercial population, the Commission has ensured that Chicago will continue to be a modernized, world-class city for the 21st century. The efforts of Alderman Banks, Mr. Mosena and the other members of the commission helped lead the Zoning Reform Commission toward the first comprehensive rewriting of Chicago's Zoning Code since 1957.

Four years ago, Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed the Zoning Reform Commission to head this massive undertaking. The Commission sought input from the commercial sector, the Aldermen who represent these unique neighborhoods, and the public at large through numerous open public forums. The Commission is to be congratulated for the breadth of support they were able to garner for the new proposal before they considered their job finished.

The new Zoning Code has laid the foundation for a superior zoning map to be available for community leaders and residents. The ordinance includes improvements beyond its original structure—which simply addressed height, bulk and location—to set standards to deal with modern issues such as green space, increased use of public transportation and job retention. With its passage, a new vision for Chicago's future has been secured.

I am also particularly proud that two members of the Zoning Reform Commission represent areas of the 5th Congressional District. Alderman William J.P. Banks, the Chairman of the City Council's Zoning Committee, and Alderman Ray Suarez, the Chairman of the City Council's Committee on Housing & Real Estate, continue to provide their vast experience, expertise and knowledge in directing the planning and development of Chicago.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, and indeed all of Chicago, I am privileged to congratulate the Zoning Reform Committee for

their achievements in providing a new Zoning Code, and thank them for their diligent work on this important effort.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 231, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO PETER J. PURDY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Peter J. Purdy, President of the U.S. Committee for the U.N. Population Fund, who will be retiring at the end of this summer after a thirty-year career dedicated to improving the lives of women and children in the developing world.

Peter began his remarkable career as Country Director in India for the Thomas A. Dooley Foundation and later as Country Representative in Indonesia for Church World Service. These early experiences in India and Indonesia were to set the stage for a lifelong commitment to helping the world's poorest women have access to quality reproductive and maternal health care services.

For the next twenty-seven years, Peter traveled throughout the developing world as the Director of the Margaret Sanger Center, the international-arm of the Planned Parenthood Federation of New York City. Peter worked closely with both Government and Non-Governmental Organizations to improve the quality and availability of reproductive health care for women in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Since 1999, Peter has directed his considerable talents to building support with American citizens for the work of the United Nations Population Fund. It is through this context, I have had the pleasure of getting to know Peter as both a friend as well as an expert guide to some of the poorest and most forgotten places in the world. In Malawi, Peter introduced me to a traditional birth attendant who regularly delivered babies in a humble mud hut without any modern medical assistance. When asked what the U.S. Government could provide her, she said simply "clean razor blades and kerosene to provide light for night deliveries." My meeting her was a singularly memorable experience but for Peter she was but one of the many women he has met and helped along the way of his career devoted to saving women's lives. Peter was a joy to travel with, and his insight and dedication added greatly to my experience in Africa.

Peter has told me that he plans to devote his retirement to spending time with his wonderful wife, Susan, and playing jazz piano. Knowing Peter, however, I am confident that he will continue to advocate and educate all that he meets on improving the lives of women and their families around the world.

Thank you, Peter, for your lifelong dedication to making the world a better place by enabling women to live healthy lives and to have healthy babies. Millions of people around the world have been touched by your work over the last thirty years. Best wishes in your retirement.

PROVIDING RAPID ACQUISITION AUTHORITY TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO RESPOND TO COM- BAT EMERGENCIES

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few minutes to discuss H.R. 4323. This legislation has the best of intentions. It would provide authority for the Secretary of Defense to expedite procurement of equipment that is necessary to protect against combat deaths. While I agree with the premise, I am concerned about the details of the bill.

Obviously, we all, regardless of political party, want our men and women in uniform to have the equipment they need to protect themselves and successfully carry out their mission. Just last month, I voted in favor of H.R. 4200, the fiscal year 2005 Department of Defense Authorization Act. This legislation boosted funding above and beyond the levels requested by President Bush for a variety of critical equipment like armored Humvees, advanced body armor, and roadside bomb suppression devices.

H.R. 4200 also included a provision to speed up the procurement of equipment necessary to prevent combat casualties that is identical to the text included in H.R. 4323. While I had some reservations about the provision, I supported its inclusion in H.R. 4200 and voted for final passage of the bill because it contained a variety of important pay and benefit improvements for our men and women in uniform. And, as I mentioned, it increased funding for critical equipment. I was hoping that the procurement provision could be fine-tuned in the conference with the Senate.

However, the House Republican leadership decided to bring the procurement provision to the floor as a stand-alone measure, H.R. 4323, in order to fast-track the bill through Congress and get it to the President without getting bogged down in the various debates surrounding H.R. 4200. The bill is on the floor this week under a procedure that prohibits amendments to perfect it.

I voted against H.R. 4323 because I am concerned about rushing through a bill that, while well intentioned, may not provide the benefit to our men and women in uniform that its proponents claim.

The bill would require that the Secretary of Defense establish an expedited procurement process for equipment that can prevent combat casualties occurring in the field. In order to speed up the process and allow a contract to be awarded within 15 days of an identified need, H.R. 4323 would waive the statutory requirement that the equipment be tested and evaluated for effectiveness.

Some of my colleagues may remember during the Vietnam War when modified M-16s

were rushed into soldiers' hands. Tragically, the weapons were not adequately tested prior to distribution in Vietnam. It turns out they jammed frequently, causing untold number of deaths when soldiers' were left without an automatic weapon when facing enemy fire.

Rather than waiving the requirement that emergency equipment be tested and evaluated for effectiveness, as H.R. 4323 currently does, and risk the repeat of another debacle like the M-16 during Vietnam, I believe this bill should accelerate the testing and evaluation of critical equipment so that it can be procured more quickly, but still safely.

It does our soldiers no good to have equipment procured and distributed quickly if it doesn't work as its supposed to. Amending H.R. 4323 to keep the requirement that equipment to be procured under this new streamlined authority still be tested would ensure that the equipment our troops need would provide the expected level of protection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT LIONEL HAMPTON SHOULD
BE HONORED FOR HIS CON-
TRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN
MUSIC

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I challenge my fellow members of Congress, as well as my fellow Americans, to listen closely as we walk our respective paths today. I ask that as we journey back to our offices, and then on to our homes, we keep our ears pricked, attentive to the sounds which often go ignored in the clamor of full days and long nights. If we are truly mindful, vigilant in our perception of the hums, clicks and tones that surround us, some of us might notice that within the very rhythm to which we walk, the harmony which paces us on our diverse journeys, we find slight hints of "Flying Home," traces of "Stardust," and shades of "Midnight Sun." Mr. Speaker, Lionel Hampton is more than a giant of jazz and an impassioned servant of his community; he is a part of the fabric of this nation, a lasting presence in the daily melody of the United States.

Lionel Hampton spent his youth in Alabama, Wisconsin, and Chicago listening to the music of Louis Armstrong and dreaming of a future in the budding musical genre called "jazz." After stints on the drums and marimba, Hampton took up the vibraphone and set the benchmark for excellence on that instrument, for which he became known as the "Vibes President of the United States."

Because of the racism that permeated the music business in the 1930s Hampton's performances were limited to a small number of venues, so he partnered with White clarinetist and bandleader Benny Goodman and set about making history, for the first time creating an integrated public face of jazz music. Between 1936 and 1940, Hampton and Goodman created perhaps the greatest swing recordings of all time: "Moonglow Opus 1/2" and "Gone With What Wind?" among the duo's other recordings are the gold standards of the Swing Era, and they helped to elevate Hampton to the status of a jazz superstar.

In 1940 Hampton established his own big band, "Lionel Hampton and His Orchestra," and it was from this orchestra that the songs of our time originated. Audiences swayed and lindy-hopped to "Hamp's Boogie Woogie" and "Evil Gal Blues," and 'Hamp' serenaded the masses while breaking down the color line, becoming the first African American to play in a number of major hotels and music halls. Hampton's orchestra became a training ground for great musicians, graduating legends such as Dexter Gordon, Cat Anderson, Charlie Mingus, Quincy Jones, Dinah Washington, and Aretha Franklin.

As much as a presence as Lionel Hampton was in the jazz industry, his work in his community was equally if not more potent. He was a goodwill ambassador for the United States, appointed by President Eisenhower to spread the music of jazz and the message of equality in his many tours to Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. He also worked tirelessly for his beloved Harlem, founding the Lionel Hampton Development Corporation which built quality low- and middle-income housing in New York City and Newark, New Jersey. One of his projects, the Gladys Hampton Houses, is named for his wife, the illustrious singer Gladys Hampton, who died in 1971 after a 35-year marriage.

Hampton served on the New York City Human Rights Commission and was appointed as "Ambassador of Music" to the United Nations in 1985. In 1998, he and Lloyd Rucker founded the Lionel and Gladys Hampton Jazz History Education Foundation, an organization that continues in the honorable work of teaching disadvantaged young people about jazz. For his efforts he received both the Kennedy Center Honor and the National Medal of the Arts, and in 1987 the University of Idaho named its School of Music after Hampton.

Lionel Hampton played the vibraphone and flashed his million-dollar smile to audiences across the globe almost until the date he succumbed to heart failure, Saturday, August 31, 2002. He was a towering figure of musical greatness and global renown, but he often bent low to help the neediest among us, and for this New York, the African American community, and indeed our entire nation is grateful. Our country's swing is Hampton's swing, our jazz is Hampton's jazz, and thus there is no figure more worthy of honor by this body than Lionel Hampton.

Again, I entreat us all to listen closely on our daily journeys; I dare say that as we walk we might, unwittingly, be paced by the lively report of "Flying Home."

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREE-
DOM FOR POPE JOHN PAUL II

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support and recognize the President's awarding of the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Pope John Paul II. Few others in the history of the world can match John Paul II's lifelong record of championing peace, liberty, and human rights.

Born in 1920 in Poland, Karol Jozef Wojtyla has lived a life of service to his faith and to

the people of the world. During the occupation of Poland, he courageously defied the Nazis to aid the persecuted Polish Jews, and similar acts of bravery have marked his entire public life. After his ordination in 1946, John Paul II worked tirelessly to uphold the teachings and ministry of the church in Poland, a constant risk under the Communist rule.

Recognizing his lifelong devotion to his faith and to humanity, the College of Cardinals elected John Paul II the 264th pope in 1978. Last year I was proud to join with my colleagues in voting for a resolution recognizing the twenty-fifth anniversary of his papacy.

During John Paul II's first visit to Poland as the Pope in 1979, he delivered 36 addresses. At least ten million of Poland's 35 million people saw him in person, in the nine cities, villages and shrines that he visited.

Throughout his papacy, John Paul II has joined world leaders on a variety of causes, always keeping the ideals of human dignity and high public morality at the forefront. His efforts on behalf of the people of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union were a direct catalyst in the birth of democracy for those countries once behind the Iron Curtain.

Beyond his extraordinary achievements, John Paul II has always had a remarkable affinity with the common man. He once said, "I hope to have communion with the people; that is the important thing." Time and again, he has communed with the people, demonstrating his commitment to humanity on a genuinely personal level. Through his caring and selfless acts of faith and leadership, he has engendered the love and respect of millions of people, both those within his church and those from beyond the Catholic faith.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, including 131,000 Catholics and 112,000 Polish Americans in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois, I am proud to congratulate Pope John Paul II for receiving the Medal of Freedom. It is a fitting tribute to a truly remarkable human being whose countless achievements have proved an unyielding dedication to his Church, to God, and to humanity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 229 and 230, I was delayed due to inclement weather and was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

VIET NAM NEVER AGAIN

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, quite a number of Washington leaders have expressed great anger over the comparison of the present war in Iraq to the past war in Viet Nam. Many insist that there is no logical comparison: Viet Nam was a war waged over many years and thousands of Americans died. With great glee they point to the fact that we have not yet had

the first thousand body bags come home from Iraq. Consider, Mr. Speaker, the fact that not one soldier killed or wounded has a wife, mother and family rejoicing about the overall low casualty rate. Human life is sacred and one tragedy of Viet Nam is that our government stopped counting one soul at a time. 58,000 heroes died in the jungles of Viet Nam and every American citizen has a duty to fight to guarantee that no body count statistics close to these are tolerated ever again. While we praise the heroism of the troops in Iraq we must confess that it is now crystal clear that this army is in the wrong place fighting the wrong enemy at great financial as well as human costs.

Before the years begin to go by and the body count mounts into the thousands, an exit strategy must be implemented now. Viet Nam has taught us that inevitably there will be an end negotiated to even a very complex war. In the interest of our nation and of humanity let us begin to work backward to initiate the negotiations for peace. The shape of the table might be the same as the table shape finally agreed upon in Viet Nam. What matters most is that this administration must invite all of the nations on the U.N. Security Council and all of the members of NATO to come to the table. The sharing of the powers of decision-making must be placed on the table. French, German, Russian and Chinese troops must be contributed to the effort to guarantee law and order in Iraq. The guerilla insurgents may hold out for many years but once we are able to make the argument to the Iraqi masses that we are not in their country to re-institute colonial subjugation or to pilfer their oil revenues the popular appeal of the violent uprising will fade away. An international presence with a clearly stated set of rules and a transparent timetable will encourage the development and actions of a new leadership class among the Iraqi population. The yearning for liberty is so great in the bosom of every human being that true freedom has its own overwhelming recruiting power.

Viet Nam is still described by former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara as an unfortunate series of mistakes; however, in dishonest riddles McNamara refuses to admit that Viet Nam was one of the greatest blunders in modern history. 58,000 died needlessly. We lost Viet Nam but the dominoes did not fall against us. The free world went on to win the cold war. Victory over Al Qaeda and world terrorism cannot be won in Iraq. Let this truth guide Washington decision-makers now before another 58,000 die.

NO NEW VIETNAM

In Iraq 58,000
Have not yet died.

58,000
Mothers, daughters, wives
Have not yet cried.

58,000
Did not fall yet,
The quota to make a wall
Has not yet been met.

From VietNam
58,000
Body bags came home;
Jungle warfare was tough,
Mid-East deserts deemed easy to roam,
Combat assumed to never get rough.

58,000
Must die first;
For oil and gas American appetite
Shows an unquenchable thirst;

58,000
To stop other nations from daring
To make demands for equal sharing.

58,000
Is a goal there is time to reach;
For present low count casualties
VietNam
Has no lessons to teach.

Families waiting
Will get no happy greetings
Til Rumsfeld holds
One hundred more meetings;
Colin must make more trips,
DeLay must crack his whips,
Speeches must be recited
On the fourth of July
Photo opportunities with wives
Of husbands shipped off to die.

58,000 never again—
Where in hiding
Have power brokers been?
Command Macnamara
To tell the true story,
Washington warmongers deserve
No star spangled glory,
On the front lines
The scene is always gory.

White House power at risk
Needed an Iraq fix;
Exposed now
Is what we always knew,
Addiction for oil
Infected the Neo-Com crew.
Rumsfeld decrees
That far across the seas
There is no new VietNam;
Every high tech trick
Has not yet been tried
We have not yet met
The WMD enemy threat;
Premature victory the White House tasted
Because 58,000 lives
Have not yet been wasted.

Thank America
For names carved in stone
Pray for all children left alone
When body bags bore their fathers home;
Home of the brave
Pledge to the credo
Each life we must save,
No more monuments
But lasting peace we crave.

58,000
Have names on the wall,
These heroes stand tall,
From heaven their voices call,
Blood soaked wisdom
From truth trenches will crawl:
58,000 never again!
Rise to resist the squander
Of the lives of brave men!

58,000
Did not fall yet,
The quota to make a wall
Has not yet been met.
58,000!

REMEMBERING MRS. MARCELLE WILDER, DEVOTED WIFE AND GENEROUS COMMUNITY SUP- PORTER

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, Mr. TANNER and I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. John Wilder of Tennessee.

Mrs. Wilder was recognized across the state for her devotion to her husband, Lt. Gov. John Wilder, to her church and to the people of

Tennessee. With the passing of Marcelle Ann Morton-Wilder on June 7th, Tennessee lost a passionate and generous spirit whose lifelong commitment to supporting her state, her community and her family inspired so many others.

Marcelle Wilder and John Wilder's partnership was itself an inspiration for all those who knew them. Married for 62 years, Marcelle Wilder met her husband-to-be as a young student in Fayette County. Following his election to the Tennessee Senate in 1958, and then to Lt. Governor in 1971, Marcelle joined her husband in working on behalf of all Tennesseans. She made frequent trips to Nashville to be at her husband's side as he led the Tennessee legislature. At the same time, she gave generously of her time and energy to many community organizations. She was a co-founder of the Tennessee Waltz Organization, a fundraiser for the Tennessee State Museum. She served on the Southern Legislative Conference Ladies Committee and the National Conference Ladies Committee for many years. In addition, she was a visible and energetic member of the Tennessee Bicentennial Committee in 1996. She also was an active member of her church, the Braden United Methodist Church, and was recognized for her work in researching and writing the history of the church.

On behalf of all Tennesseans, I offer my deep condolences to Lt. Gov. Wilder, their two sons, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Their loss is one that all Tennesseans share as we pause to remember the many gifts Mrs. Wilder shared with all of us during her lifetime.

THE MOODY TROJANS

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Moody Trojans, winner of the 2004 Texas High School Class 5-A Baseball Championship. These young players came heartbreakingly close to the championship as runners-up in the 2000 tournament, but this year the prize was all Moody's.

Moody baseball is not only a community tradition in South Texas, but also a family tradition. The players are an extended family, reading each other's minds and anticipating each other's moves. This is a group that sincerely loves to compete.

The amazing skill of this team won the recognition of coaches, resulting in the Trojans finishing second in the nation in the Baseball America/National High School Baseball Coaches Association poll released Monday. This season for "Moody Magic" has been one for the record books.

This is an aggressive, confident team, whose amazing baserunning in the title game was a large part of their victory. Of course, with these young people, that attitude is pervasive not only on the baseball diamond, but in all that they do.

Moody's fans are as relentless as their team. They were over 75 percent of the crowd, cheering the players on, chanting, blowing horns, yelling, clapping and stomping feet. Like the Trojans of old, they didn't give

up until the battle was done. Over 1,000 fans met the team when their bus got back to Corpus Christi. The crowd rushed to the field as the players placed their trophy on the pitcher's mound.

The Moody Magic is part inspiration, part hard work, and part spirituality that draws this team close. They pray together, win together and lose together; but they keep their faith.

Four years ago, they prayed even while their opponent was awarded gold medals for the championship; they prayed that the experience would make them better people. It did, and 2004 was their year to win the gold medals.

These young people have learned the very best lessons sports can teach. They learned that winning is great, but winners on the field are made from teamwork and faith; and winners in life are those who master the fundamentals, never lose their faith, and put their whole effort into all they do.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me today in commending this outstanding group of young champions from "Moody Magic" who have learned—and lived—the most important lessons of competition, faith and dignity. Mr. Speaker, these young people have inspired us and made us exceptionally proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 232–242, I was detained by a meeting with Secretary of Commerce Donald Evans and his newly appointed Manufacturers Advisory Council, at which I spoke. The delay was compounded by an airline delay which prevented me from voting on the last three rollcall votes, on all of which I would have voted "no."

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall No. 232, "yes"; rollcall No. 233, "yes"; rollcall No. 234, "yes"; rollcall No. 235, "yes"; rollcall No. 236, "yes"; rollcall No. 237, "yes"; rollcall No. 238, "yes"; rollcall No. 239, "yes"; rollcall No. 240, "no"; rollcall No. 241, "no"; and rollcall No. 242, "no";

MODIFYING CERTAIN DEADLINES FOR MACHINE-READABLE, TAMPER-RESISTANT ENTRY AND EXIT DOCUMENTS

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, today the House approved by voice vote H.R. 4417, a bill to modify certain deadlines pertaining to machine-readable, tamper-resistant entry and exit documents. I applaud the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Congressman SENSENBRENNER, for advancing this important legislation, which is the first step in ensuring that the United States and Visa Waiver Program countries are able to honor the obligations that were put into law in the Enhanced

Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002.

I am concerned, however, that H.R. 4417 does not grant the Administration the full two-year period that will be necessary to achieve the issuance of biometric, machine-readable, tamper-resistant passports that meet international standards. The Secretaries of State and Homeland Security have stated that not even the United States will be ready to issue such passports by October 2005. The uncertainty and confusion created by a one-year extension for both potential travelers to the U.S., as well as the industries that serve them during their stays here, must be taken into account. The Senate is considering legislation that would grant the Administration the two-year period that they seek. I believe that this approach will facilitate an efficient completion of the passport development and issuance process, while also taking into account important national security concerns.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RAY CHARLES

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special homage to a legendary entertainer and an American icon, Mr. Ray Charles, who passed away on June 10, 2004 at the age of 73.

Ray Charles Robinson (who later dropped his last name to prevent confusion with boxer "Sugar" Ray Robinson) was born September 23, 1930 in Albany, Georgia. Charles was born at the beginning of The Great Depression into a rural southern community, which denied opportunity and tried to kill the dreams of African Americans.

Ray Charles was blinded by glaucoma at age 7. After being sent to the St. Augustine school for the Deaf and Blind, he learned to read and write musical compositions in Braille, and mastered playing several instruments including the piano and the saxophone. By the age of 15, Charles was orphaned, and had begun to perform in Black nightclubs. Charles would later draw from the adversity of his early life a special soulfulness, which fueled new music that America had never known: the sultry combination of human problems and transgressions with the hope and inspiration of the spirit. He drew from diverse musical roots and made the music his own.

By 1959, Charles would have his first big hit, "What'd I Say". He would in an illustrious career win 12 Grammy Awards and a plethora of other musical achievements. Later, he would be called one of the forefathers of Rock n' Roll.

The music of Ray Charles was as diverse as his audience. He was able to cross musical genres including jazz, blues, gospel, soul, country, pop and rock and roll. Charles was a musical pioneer and throughout his career gained a large fan base in various racial and ethnic groups. He broke down the rigid walls between black and white music. Charles was an inspiration for the likes of Elvis Presley and The Beatles, who sought to incorporate his soulfulness in their music.

Charles would also use his cross-cultural ability to help achieve racial equality. Charles

was a friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and was active in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, performing benefit concerts and giving up his personal resources. During the height of South African apartheid, Charles refused to play for segregated audiences in firm opposition to the legal segregation that was in place in that country.

Charles had a string of stirring hits including "Georgia on my Mind", "I Can't Stop Loving You", and "America the Beautiful", which he first performed in 1972 and then later at many occasions of national celebration including the inaugural ball for the late former president, Ronald Reagan in 1985. In 1986 he received Kennedy Center Honors for his amazing ability to break down social barriers through his music.

Music lovers worldwide will consequently suffer a great void that no other musician will ever be able to fill. Ray Charles was able to inspire millions through his music. Ray Charles has left us the enduring legacy of his genius, his music, and though gone from us physically the music of Ray Charles will live on forever.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 14, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend my colleagues on the passage of H.R. 4278. This bill reauthorizes and makes permanent the Assistive Technology Act, which plays an instrumental role in promoting awareness of and access to services and devices that allow individuals with disabilities to lead independent lives, to work, to participate fully in community and school, and to make informed choices in all aspects of their lives.

This legislation, which passed unanimously under suspension yesterday, is a result of a bipartisan commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities. Members of Congress from both parties recognized the valuable role that the Tech Act plays in providing support to programs in all 50 states and worked together to ensure the continuation and vitality of the state grant programs. Most importantly, this bill will get technology into the hands of people who need it.

My own background and experience gives me a unique perspective on the value of assistive technology. Indeed, access to technology has made it possible for me to serve as a Member of the United States Congress. Through my own experience and opportunities to interact with others in the disability community, I am keenly aware that access can make the difference between a life on public assistance and a productive, fulfilling career. With the unemployment rate within the disability community at a staggering 70 percent, we must support and promote the programs that are making a difference. State assistive technology programs have proven to be instrumental in getting people back into their communities.

When it was first enacted, in 1988, the Tech Act contained sunset provisions which would

have allowed funding for state programs to expire. Since that time, it has become obvious that the world of technology is continuously changing. Policy makers have learned over the last decade that responsible technology-related legislation must be more enduring. I am so proud to have been a part of this House-passed legislation, which ends sunsets and provides a permanent funding stream for these state programs.

I look forward to our continued work together to develop new ways to break down barriers to technology for all people with disabilities.

**JAKE WILLHITE'S 10TH ANNUAL
FLAG DAY PARTY**

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10th annual Flag Day Party hosted each year by Jake Willhite of Chesterfield, Missouri.

Jake has been celebrating and honoring Flag Day with his family and friends for most of his life now and has inspired many of us to have a greater appreciation for our flag and its meaning. It is significant to note that someone so young can teach us so much.

Jake's parents, Bill and Shannon Willhite send out an annual invitation to Jake's party. This is what this year's invitation had to say: Jake's 10th annual Flag Day Party

"When Jacob's party began in June of 1995, he carried his flag everywhere. His patriotism was alive. Carrying the flag was Jacob's own way of showing us all that June 14th was its day. Since that first party, friends and family have come through when it's time to celebrate the red, white and blue. So come join us again. The years go by fast. We're ready to celebrate with Jacob's 10th Annual blast."

According to Bill and Shannon, a great time was had by all of Jake's friends and family members including his sisters Samantha and Kennedy.

Jake, we want to thank you for reminding us how important our flag is.

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD STATE-
MENT ON CALPINE'S 20TH ANNI-
VERSARY**

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize and congratulate one of my hometown companies for achieving a milestone this month—the celebration of their 20th Anniversary. An energy industry entrepreneur, Pete Cartwright, along with four associates, founded Calpine Corporation, headquartered in San Jose, CA, 20 years ago. They began their business of building power plants and producing electricity by buying one megawatt of power in a geothermal power plant in Northern California. Today, Calpine has 30,000 megawatts of power plants in operation and

construction (enough to power approximately 30 million homes), they operate the largest fleet of modern, environmentally sensitive gas-fired power plants in North America, and they oversee significant natural gas production, and are the world's largest producer of renewable geothermal energy.

While this is a remarkable achievement in an industry that has seen more than its share of turmoil and change over the last 20 years, Calpine has created a successful business while, at the same time, serving as the leading industry steward of the environment, acting as a good corporate citizen, and maintaining a rewarding workplace for its employees.

Let me give you some recent examples of the recognition Calpine has received for these achievements:

Fortune Magazine named Calpine "America's Most Respected Energy Company" in 2004.

The American Lung Association's of the Bay Area selected Calpine to receive its 2004 Clean Air Award for Technology Development at its Geysers geothermal operation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy awarded Calpine a 2003 ENERGY STAR Combined Heat and Power Award recognizing its Deer Park Energy Center for "leadership in energy supply" for using 30 percent less fuel than onsite thermal generation and purchased electricity.

The California Department of Conservation recognized Calpine's Geysers geothermal operations with an award for environmental stewardship, safety, infrastructure maintenance and resource conservation for the last two years.

The New York League of Conservation Voters just presented Calpine and its Chairman, Pete Cartwright, with its Clean Air Champion's Award for their outstanding leadership on behalf of New York's environment.

The University of Colorado's Tim Wirth Chair on Environmental and Community Development selected Calpine to receive its Award for Sustainable Business for their leadership in producing electricity in an environmentally responsible manner.

Calpine Corporation has exhibited leadership in California on corporate responsibility by taking decisive action during the state's energy crisis to keep their power plants operating even in the face of financial loss due to the high cost of fuel. Despite the uncertainty about California's future design of its energy markets, Calpine has continued to invest in the state. Calpine has already invested \$5 billion and employs over 1000 workers to operate 39 power plants in California and is committed to investing another \$3 billion to meet the growing demand for power in the state.

Calpine has exhibited environmental leadership by adopting a unanimous board resolution committing the company to a low carbon future, by joining the California Climate Registry and the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group's Voluntary Global Warming Initiative, by building only low-emitting gas-fired power plants using state-of-the-art pollution control equipment, and by being the world's leading producer of renewable geothermal energy and the country's largest producer of cogenerated power.

Finally, Calpine is a leader in community service with a long history of partnering with community organizations, as well as funding community and educational programs that seek to change lives and strengthen the fabric

of our society. Calpine also supports the generous volunteerism of its employees and encourages them to take active roles in their communities making them even better places to live and work.

I want to congratulate Calpine Corporation and its Chairman, Pete Cartwright, for the wisdom of choosing California as its major place of business, for continuing to invest in California, for showing leadership in the areas of the environment, corporate responsibility, and community service and for successfully reaching this milestone anniversary.

**RECOGNIZING MAJOR GENERAL
LAWRENCE R. ADAIR, UPON HIS
RETIREMENT FROM THE U.S.
ARMY**

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great patriot, soldier and fellow New Yorker, Major General Lawrence Richard Adair. General Adair is retiring after 30 years of distinguished service in the United States Army.

After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy, the Larchmont, NY, resident entered the Army in 1974, with a commission as a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery.

He held numerous commands and staff assignments in both the Federal Republic of Germany and the continental United States, and led soldiers into combat as a Battalion Commander during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Following successful tours as the Commander, Division Artillery, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas; Deputy Commanding General/Assistant Commandant, United States Army Field Artillery Center and School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and Commanding General, United States Total Army Personnel Command, Alexandria, Virginia, Major General Adair assumed the role of Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-1. This critical part of the Army works on a wide variety of personnel issues affecting the Army's functioning.

In this capacity, his dynamic human resource vision has been absolutely critical in transforming the Army for its continuing global war on terrorism. For the past two years, he has served as the principal advisor to the Army G-1 and the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) in managing our most important resource—people. Major General Adair's influence has been far-reaching and strategic. One of the greatest challenges the Army G-1 has faced in recent memory has been to restructure the Army to better support the war on terrorism. A common sense approach to this difficult and complex human resource challenge was his hallmark. He provided leadership and guidance in efficiently activating a new system that supports commanders in the field with units rather than individual replacements. Major General Adair has also worked extensively with officials throughout the Army in order to determine the best way to take care of soldiers and their families. One example is the implementation of the Rest and Recuperation Program in support of Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Additionally, deployed soldiers have

received increased incentive pay due in part to his determined efforts to ensure that their sacrifices and contributions are appropriately recognized.

Major General Adair is married to the former Maria D. Davis of Scranton, PA. They have two children, Ted, a Captain in the Army who is currently serving in Iraq with the 1st Cavalry Division, and John, a ninth grader.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking General Adair for the leadership he has provided, for the care and concern he has demonstrated for our soldiers and their families, and for his dedicated and honorable service to our Nation and its Army. As he prepares for life after the Army, we wish him, his wife Maria, and his family Godspeed and the very best in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE VISIT OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT VICENTE FOX TO MICHIGAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with special privilege that I rise today to honor Mexico's President, Vicente Fox, on the occasion of his visit to Michigan and to thank him for his continued efforts to strengthen the bilateral relationship between our great countries.

President Fox's visit is a sign of the strong cultural and economic connection shared with America. Today, Michigan is called home by many Hispanics of Mexican descent. The result is a significant cultural bond that connects Mexico and Michigan. Mexico is considered a

partner, neighbor, and a friend to Michigan. President Fox's commitment to strengthening these ties is deep and far reaching. His dedication to upholding the integrity and principles of Mexico, and his continued work on behalf of the people in Michigan, are testaments to his strength of character.

President Fox's visit to Michigan's state capitol will undoubtedly further the state's relationship with Mexico and continued economic integration. Mexico can be considered more than a friend, rather a partner in building a more democratically prosperous state. His visit to the state of Michigan is just a glimpse of many good things to come; Mexico and Michigan will continue to work together to enhance our common prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, President Fox is a Mexican patriot with a great vision for his country. His vision extends to the people of Michigan so that they may share equally in prosperity. He has given selflessly of himself to better his country, and has shown equal enthusiasm in bettering his relationship with the great state of Michigan. President Fox has truly earned the respect and admiration of all those who know him.

CONGRATULATING ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 15, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to St. Patrick's School in Dallas, Texas, on the occasion of their 40th anniversary.

Education is one of the most important issues facing the future of our great nation. If America is to continue to be the leader of the modern world, we must offer a solid educational foundation for our citizens. To succeed in school and life, every student needs a basic set of skills. They need to listen attentively, speak persuasively, read with understanding, and write with command.

Over the past 40 years, St. Patrick's School has maintained a commitment to educational excellence, striving to provide a stimulating, well-rounded Catholic education by teaching their students to embrace the message of the gospel, pursue knowledge and make a difference in the world.

On March 17, 1963, Bishop Thomas K. Gorman issued a decree to establish St. Patrick's Parish north of White Rock Lake. Construction on the school began soon after and when it opened in September of 1964, the school was staffed by three Sisters of Notre Dame of the Dallas province and lay teachers for 326 students. Since then, the school has grown, expanding its buildings and facilities to help accommodate and educate more than 500 students.

Accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference of the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission, St. Patrick's School is an institution dedicated to offering students the tools they need to become genuine leaders in the community.

As the Congressman for the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, I am very proud to represent St. Patrick's Parish. I would like to offer my congratulations to their administrators, alumni, students, and parents on this momentous occasion and best wishes for their continued success.